

Four
Stars
on

GETTING READY FOR THE NEW SEASON

SHOOT!

15p

5th AUGUST, 1978

West Brom striker
Cyrille Regis (left) and
Duncan Forbes of
Norwich City in a
heading duel.

All the top
goalscorers
since the War

IN THE SECOND,
THIRD AND FOURTH
DIVISIONS

DOUBLE-PAGE COLOUR PHOTO OF
PETER BARNES, MAN. CITY AND ENGLAND

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SUMMER SIGNINGS FOR STOKE



WATCH Stoke City! They could well prove the surprise packets of the Second Division following some shrewd signings by Alan Durban, who took over as boss at the Victoria Ground only last February.

Within a month he had signed striker Brendan O'Callaghan and goalkeeper Peter Fox (left) O'Callaghan, who cost £35,000 from Doncaster, is seen by Durban as a 20-goal-a-season player.

"His ability in the air is the nearest I've seen to John Charles," says Durban. "I can see him becoming a firm favourite with the crowd and get those 20 goals."

The 20-year-old Fox, who only cost £15,000 from Sheffield Wednesday, is a promising youngster and certainly one for the future. But he could soon establish himself. He has certainly

boosted a weak department in the squad.

But his June signings of Mike Doyle (right) from Manchester City and Sam Irvine from his old club, Shrewsbury, must surely give Stoke hope of regaining their old First Division spot.

Durban has really boosted his midfield and, of course, the experienced Doyle can also do a commendable job in defence.

Of the two men who each cost around the £60,000 mark, the ambitious Durban says: "Irvine has what we need to balance the qualities Doyle will bring to us."

"Doyle is an experienced defender who knows the game so well, while Irvine has shown what he can do with his 11 goals from midfield for Shrewsbury last season."



● LOTTERY BRIGHTENS PORT VALE

THE wives of the Port Vale players won't have to wash their husbands' strips this season. The club is installing a £600 washing machine to cope with the cleaning.

It is part of a spruce-up for the club's image made possible by the success of the lottery which is selling around 50,000 tickets. Other improvements at Burslem Park include a new, all-weather pitch for five-a-sides and a plush vice-presidents' lounge on the roof of the stand.



ALL-ROUNDER TOPPING

CHRIS Topping (above) whose 354 consecutive games for York is a record among current League players, is now hoping to give Huddersfield the same sort of service.

Topping, who left York for Huddersfield for £20,000 in the close season, had over 11 years at Bootham Crescent, first joining the club as a schoolboy in February, 1967. He signed as an apprentice five months later and was taken on the professional strength in March, 1969. And he had actually made his first team debut two months earlier.

Defender Chris is a great sporting type — he loves to play tennis, cricket, rugby and hockey, although his first love has always been soccer.

He was born at Bubwith, near Selby, and York was his local team. The club first became interested in him when a scout saw him and asked him to join the third team.

Topping, whose great run of appearances for York speaks so highly of his fitness, last missed a game for them in September, 1970. Now he is hoping to get into a record-breaking groove with the Leeds Road team.

FAR FLUNG PLAYERS

BRENTFORD certainly don't believe in making their players live near their Griffin Park ground. Striker Steve Phillips, midfield ace Dave Carlton and defender Barry Tucker all live near Northampton, goalie Len Bond in Bristol, centre-half Pat Kruse in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, and winger Doug Allder in Meopham, Kent. But they all travel to London for training every day — and it obviously didn't do them or the club any harm last season.

BRIGHTON, who missed out on promotion to the First Division last season, and Notts County, were the only clubs to score in all their home League games last season.

But Brighton have the longer sequence — 36 matches since a 2-0 Third Division defeat by Wrexham on November 27th, 1976.

County were beaten in their last game of the 1976-77 term, 1-0 by Charlton.

BRISTOL CITY with £500,000 to spend this summer, are ready to hot up the chase for Scotland and transfer-listed Derby skipper Bruce Rioch and former England and Leeds full-back Terry Cooper — given a free by Middlesbrough.

City may be prepared to let unsettled Scottish midfielder Gerry Gow go in part exchange for Rioch and then plan a £300,000 splash on a striker to link up with Joe Royle.



CRISIS CALL FOR GEDDIS

WHAT a change of fortune for David Geddis (behind manager Bobby Robson)! In February, 1977, the Ipswich striker went on loan to Luton and capped his return to Suffolk by starring for Ipswich in the F.A. Cup Final, earn a place in the England 'B' team's close season tour and, of course, a place in his club team for their assault on the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

And yet Carlisle-born Geddis may well have been in the Second Division with

Luton. He went to Kenilworth Road on loan and was all set to sign on a permanent basis.

But an injury crisis at Portman Road resulted in his recall to the First Division team after three months with Luton.

His performance in the shock 1-0 Cup Final victory over hot favourites Arsenal was a first-class one and he has won many admirers since.

NEWS DESK

COMPILED BY PETER STEWART

Irish League club Coleraine have arranged pre-season friendlies with Football League sides Carlisle United and Crewe Alexandra.

The latter fixture will be a sentimental return to the Showgrounds for Crewe boss Harry Gregg, the one-time Manchester United and Northern Ireland keeper, who began his senior career with the Co. Derry outfit, back in the early 1950's.



NEW RED

STYLISH Synan Braddish reported for training with European Champions Liverpool on July 14. A midfielder he was signed by 'Pool after a tremendous successful season with Bass League of Ireland club Dundalk.

Braddish won his first full international cap against Poland and Turkey in May and was the scorer of the Bass League XI's only goal in the World Cup warm-up against Argentina in Buenos Aires.

FORMER Northern Ireland defender-cum-midfielder Tommy Jackson, given a free transfer by Manchester United at the end of last term, and recently appointed player-manager of Eire League side Waterford, has certainly been around in his top-class career.

In all, 35-times-capped Jackson, a League Championship medallist with Everton in 1969-70, made around 140 League appearances while at Goodison, Nottingham Forest and Old Trafford, following his £10,000 move from Glentoran to Merseyside, early in 1968.



CONGRATULATIONS . . . to Manchester United's Jimmy Nicholl, who married 23-year-old laboratory assistant Sue Vanden recently.

Among the guests at the wedding were Sammy McLroy (left) and former United star Paddy Crerand.

STARTERS

HEARTS fans will be able to get a quick assessment of their team's chances in the Scottish Premier Division next season.

The Edinburgh club have accepted an invitation to take part in the Tennent-Caledonian Cup tournament at Ibrox on the weekend of August 5 and 6. Southampton and West Bromwich Albion are the other sides who will join Hearts and Rangers.

The Semi-Final draw is — West Bromwich Albion v. Southampton, and Hearts v. Rangers, both on August 5. The play-off for third and fourth place will take place the following afternoon, followed by the Final.

NON-LEAGUE Whitby Town have a new strip to start the season, by courtesy of Hartlepool. The Fourth Division club made a big profit on striker Malcolm Poskett last season, selling him to Brighton for £60,000 after bringing him out of Northern League obscurity for a £25 donation. So the 'Pool sent a £100 strip as a thank-you gesture.

Eamonn Dunphy in crash



FORMER Millwall, Charlton and Reading midfielder Eamonn Dunphy may miss the opening games of Shamrock Rovers assault on the Bass League of Ireland.

Dunphy, author of a best-selling book on the life of a footballer and one of the stars of Rovers FAI Cup win, was injured in a car crash while on his way home from the studios of RTE Television, where he was a panellist on the World Cup telecast.

PAT'S CHANCE

MILLWALL have pulled off a good stroke of business in selling goalkeeper Nicky Johns to Tampa Bay Rowdies for £200,000 and signing Pat Cuff (right) for nothing.

Cuff, 26 has had First and Second Division experience. A free transfer by Middlesbrough was a gesture to a loyal clubman who progressed through the ranks.

Former manager Jack Charlton rated Cuff "the best trainer in the club" during his Ayresome Park days.

Northern Ireland international Jim Platt kept him on the sidelines for long spells, but Cuff had 33 first team appearances in the last two seasons.

Manager John Neal, who signed £150,000 Jim Stewart from Kilmarnock, said: "Cuff has been a good servant. He deserves a chance to stake a regular first team place."

Millwall manager George Patchey beat other clubs to his signature.

"Pat always looked a useful goalkeeper when I watched him in action. With Johns in the States, Cuff now has a chance to make the position his own."



The Strip Wallace Disliked

THE last time Jock Wallace (below), Leicester City's new manager, played at Filbert Street he was a member of the West Bromwich Albion side and he was most reluctant to take part in the match.

Reason? Wallace was asked to turn out in an all-green outfit and in those days it was something of an innovation.

The only way Albion managed to get the goalkeeper to wear the green shorts was by leaving every white pair back at The Hawthorns!



NEWCASTLE UNITED, delighted that season ticket sales have topped the £200,000 mark, are preparing for the new campaign with a week's stay at a training camp in Sweden.



Norman and John Giles (far left) celebrating winning the Fairs Cup with Leeds in 1971.

'GILES SHOULD HAVE BEEN LEEDS' BOSS' — Norman Hunter

JOHNNY Giles should have been appointed manager of Leeds United in succession to Don Revie . . . that's the opinion of former Elland Road star Norman Hunter.

In his regular column for the Bristol Evening Post, Norman said: "Johnny would have been the best man for the

job. I have always maintained he would become one of the greatest managers of all time.

"Instead of Johnny Giles, the directors gave the job to Brian Clough. That cost the club a lot of money, and it was an appointment I am sure they deeply regretted."

PORTSMOUTH manager Jimmy Dickinson has a gleaming new office, thanks to the Royal Navy. Navy mechanics at HMS Daedalus offered to make Mr Dickinson's office shipshape as part of a spare-time project on community relations.

The young sailors gave up their time to do odd jobs around Fratton Park. And the former England player's office was first on the agenda for a spring-clean. Mr. Dickinson said: "They did a great job around the ground. It saved us a lot of money and my office has never looked better."

DAVE Langan, the Derby and Eire defender recently got engaged to Mandy Hallam, a niece of club captain Roy McFarland.

WORLD CUP WINNINGS

AMONGST the prizes received by the Argentinian players for winning the World Cup are: US \$24,000 per man (from Argentine F.A.) and a Fiat 133 for each man (from a local agency).

● Holland's delegation did not appear at the official banquet after the Final. This caused the Dutch ambassador to present apologies in their name saying the players were not certain of arriving on time because of celebrations congesting the streets of Buenos Aires.

URUGUAY wish to promote a tournament in 1980 with the participation of all the former World Cup winners. Therefore, it's hoped England, Italy, West Germany, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay will compete.

DANIEL BERTONI of Argentina has signed for Seville of Spain, and Hans Krankl of Austria for Barcelona.

IRAN'S team impressed their country so much with their displays in Argentina, the Iranian authorities decided to enter a plea to host the 1990 World Cup competition.

SPORTING LADD

IAN LADD, the 19-year-old Notts County centre-half, still rates highly two of the men whom he knew as a non-contract professional while with Peterborough.

In his days there trainer Billy Hails was of enormous help, while Peterborough-born Ian also learned a lot from watching the performances of defender Chris Turner.

His father, Don, is another sporting type — being a dab hand at snooker.

PORTADOWN'S 16-year-old full-back Raymond Hill has already caught the eye of English League clubs. Last season Bolton Wanderers had a representative at Newry watching him play in a challenge match between Portadown and Newry Town.

A competent and polished performer for a boy of his age, the former Northern Ireland schoolboy international looks set to make the grade. Portadown manager Bertie Neill has described Hill as being one of the "finds" of the season.



Managers on the move

Seven Scottish Premier and First Division clubs will start off with new managers this season. So far six have been confirmed — Aberdeen (Alex Ferguson ex-St Mirren); Celtic (Billy McNeill ex-Aberdeen); Rangers (John Greig, former team captain); St Mirren (Jim Clunie, former Southampton coach); Hamilton Acads (Dave McParland, ex-assistant manager with Celtic) and Airdrie (Bobby Watson, a former Motherwell player).

Queen of the South, who lost manager Mike Jackson to Morton where he is now assistant-manager, have still to fill their vacancy.

MOTHERWELL have been granted a safety certificate for Fir Park by Strathclyde Regional Council. It restricts the crowd to 22,600.

At Firhill, Glasgow, Partick Thistle are to give their ground an £85,000 face-lift in the new season.

Smethurst now striking for Sockers

DEREK SMETHURST has just ended a run of six games without a goal — his worst scoreless spell since coming to the States three-and-a-half years ago.

Smethurst, the former Millwall and Chelsea striker, has proved one of the most consistent marksmen on this side of the Atlantic. In those three-and-a-half years, he's put himself into seventh place in the all-time American scoring lists, with 57 goals in just 67 games.



The South African-born forward has just moved clubs again, swapping the green and yellow of the Tampa Bay Rowdies for the blue of the San Diego Sockers.

But the colour of the uniform has never bothered Smethurst. He's only worried about getting close enough to see the whites of the goalkeeper's eyes — anywhere from inside the box — and then the ball normally ends up in the net.

He says: "I get most of my goals from inside the box, normally from 12 yards or less. I get a lot of near post headers, too."

His move from Tampa was the second time he'd parted from Gordon Jago. He also left Millwall when Jago was the boss.

But he says: "It was nothing to do with Gordon. I had a row with the front office which we couldn't sort out and I thought it best to go. Money was part of it, but there were a lot of other things, too."

"San Diego is a new challenge. They're a young club, trying to build up the franchise and are in much the same position as Tampa were three years ago."

They're making a good job of it so far. They have a big lead at the head of the American Conference's Western Division and with Smethurst in the line-up, they believe they can go all the way to the Soccer Bowl.

Smethurst was second highest scorer in the NASL last summer with 19 goals and four assists and his lean spell this year has been mainly the result of a hamstring injury.

SOCCER IN THE STATES

happened and the club arranged to serve a pancake breakfast to every supporter at the following home game against Los Angeles.

The team, bottom of the American Conference's Western Division, continue to serve up bread and butter soccer, however.

COSMOS have applied to change their colours from green to blue.

It's been suggested by some non-New York lovers they change their name while they're about it, too. They think the Champions should be called New York Cost-most.



ABOVE... Cosmos (light shirts) have applied to have their colours changed.

LEFT... Derek Smethurst recently joined San Diego Sockers from Tampa Bay Rowdies.

Red-faced Gabriel

THE reddest face and the bluest blood in the NASL belong to Jim Gabriel, coach of the Seattle Sounders.

In a World Cup poll of all the League coaches, Gabriel — unable to quell the Scottish blood coursing through his veins — was the only one to tip Ally MacLeod's team to win the trophy.

Packed House

WORLD CUP fever hit Los Angeles on Final day, when thousands were locked out of the downtown sports arena, where the match was shown on closed circuit.

In a city where money normally talks, the unlucky supporters weren't even able to bribe the pistol-packing security men to let them in.

Inside, the 10,000 plus fans who paid between £8 and £11 weren't sure they got value for money. The match was shown on a tiny screen and most of the commentary was inaudible.

COACHES BITE THE DUST

YOU can tell American clubs are taking soccer seriously these days by the number of coaches losing their jobs.

Seven of the 24 NASL coaches have bitten the dust this season. That's over 25 per cent — and there's still about a third of the season to go.



Latest casualty is ex-Northern Ireland manager Dave Clements (above), who was fired by Caribous of Colorado.

He follows fellow Britons Richard Dinnis, who retired from Philadelphia "for personal reasons" and Malcolm Musgrove, who quit Chicago Sting. Both are returning to England.

Willy Roy, who's taken over from Musgrove, has had outstanding success. The team, who lost their opening ten games this term, have now won three of their last four. But they're still bottom of the American Conference's Central Division.

Best's dashing debut

GEORGE BEST (below) has been saying all season that the LA Aztecs aren't good enough to make the play-offs but George has found a way of getting there himself.

He's joined Fort Lauderdale Strikers and scored two goals in a 5-3 debut win over the Cosmos. He'd only scored one previous goal this term — from the penalty-spot.

The Strikers and their Florida neighbours Tampa Bay are in a furious race for second place in the American Conference's Eastern Division behind New England, but it looks as though all three will go into the play-offs.



Free Tickets

CALIFORNIA SURF's match with San Diego attracted the biggest crowd in the State's history for a soccer match. But it wasn't due to a sudden upsurge in interest in the sport.

Almost all the 20,000-odd tickets were bought by one man, local businessman Sam Ajamian, who gave them away to charity groups.

Ajamian, who owns three work shoe stores locally explained: "I went to a Surf game and was disappointed by all the empty seats. I figured Orange County had done a lot for me since I came here from Israel in 1956 and I thought this would be a way of putting something back."

It's reckoned that around 15,000 of the Ajamian tickets were used and the other 5,000 at the game bought their own way in.

He wouldn't say how much he paid for the tickets but the lowest priced seats are two dollars so he wouldn't have got much change from \$40,000 (£23,000) unless the Surf did a special deal.

Unfortunately, San Diego believe charity starts at home. They won the match 3-0.

Shattered

SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES were so confident of dumping the New England Tea Men into the Pacific that they promised a free breakfast to every fan at the game if they lost.

Needless to say, the inevitable

Arsenal's Republic of Ireland international striker Frank Stapleton (left) is robbed of the ball by Leicester's black defender Larry May.



WHILE my former Liverpool team-mate Kevin Keegan was appearing on the ITV panel in London commenting on the World Cup Finals, I made my debut at the job some 12,000 miles away, on the opposite side of the globe, in Australia.

I'd been invited over by the Australian Broadcasting Company — but I didn't find facing the cameras as easy as ABC at first.

Having made no plans for the close season, except for booking a ten-day holiday in Southern Ireland in mid-July, it came as a tremendous surprise being asked to go "Down Under" for a dream-like working holiday with my family.

Unfortunately, I couldn't fly off with my wife Vee and three children, as first I had to play for my club in a friendly against the Champion side in the United Arab Emirates, El Nassan. They are managed by Pat Saward, a former man-

although I had only to make three or four ground-level saves there were burn marks on the sides of both limbs at the end of the evening.

Another disconcerting drawback is the way the ball suddenly skids violently upwards, making it very difficult to hold or trap.

Because of the lack of physical contact, the Arab players indulged in some spectacular individual ball-juggling. One, the centre-forward, was extremely skilful, and I learnt that the Cosmos had shown an interest in him.

He could be a big hit in the States on Astro turf, I'm sure, but I wouldn't fancy his chances on the grassy stages of Maine Road, Old Trafford and Anfield.

Despite the fact the surface inhibited our style, we clearly demonstrated to the Arabs why we are European Champions by winning 5-0.

'England would have reached the Second Round in the World Cup Finals at least'



Italy were beaten by England at Wembley — yet went on to finish in fourth place in Argentina.



RAY CLEMENCE
talking soccer

'A dream-like working holiday 'Down Under''

ager of Brighton.

This gave me another "first" in my career. For it was my initial experience of playing on Astro turf, the artificial grass surface, used extensively in arid, hot regions and also in covered stadiums, such as the Astrodome in Houston, Texas.

The good things about the plastic-type turf are that the ball runs very true, aiding passing and control, and physical contact is kept to a minimum.

And the bad news is the reason why players refrain from tackling hard is because of the risk of burns. I smeared my legs liberally with Vaseline as a precaution, and

While the rest of the Liverpool party flew home, I departed for Bahrain where I met-up with my family; and after an over-night stay we boarded a Quantas jet for Sydney. The helpful crew gave us our first taste of Australian hospitality. They couldn't do enough for us, especially my baby son Stephen.

And it was Stephen, as good as gold on this marathon maiden flight, who stole the show at the Press conference on our arrival at Sydney airport on a Wednesday morning at 7 a.m.

I was surprised how much interest there was in my coming to work for ABC, which is state-owned and

run on similar lines to our BBC. Its main rival is Channel 9, owned by Kerry Packer — who you probably know chiefly for setting up his own cricket team, recruiting the likes of former England captain Tony Greig, Alan Knott and Derek Underwood — but there are also a few other smaller commercial stations.

We were then driven to our apartment, well-furnished with all amenities, at McMahon's Point, where we enjoyed a breathtaking view of the harbour, its famous bridge and unique opera house. I was told it's the most expensive area in Sydney to live, and I believe it.

A nine-hour time difference between Argentina and Australia meant we received matches during the night, which at first I found not too tiring simply because my personal "time-clock" was more in tune with South America.

We took the BBC commentary and film. Initially our schedule was to cover 12 matches, but after complaints from the large Italian immigrant community we added the Italy/Holland game.

The panel consisted of myself, a chairman, Norman May, and a soccer expert, Martin Royle. Instead of the chairman being involved throughout each session — before a match, at half-time and at full-time — he merely introduced and wound-up the show because, as he confessed, he knew little about football. And as Martin's knowledge was limited to reeling off statistics

he compiled, most of the chat was done by yours truly.

For the first two shows I read from scripts I had prepared, but after a discussion with the producer, in which we agreed my delivery was too stilted, I switched to commenting on aspects of the competition

'Argentinian fans have a fervour equal to that of The Kopites'





and the featured game, and my relaxed impromptu performances went down very well.

When it came to presenting the Final I decided to lead with recordings of my 12 best goals. I went into so much detail, I only managed to feature six!

It was hard work, made lighter by the fact everyone was so co-operative and friendly. And there was no fear of going hungry — viewers made sure of that. Italian viewers sent up pizzas and bottles of Chianti, and during the Final a Dutchman presented us panellists with a huge Dutch cheese.

The kindness shown me and the family was overwhelming. Whenever I worked during the day, appearing on radio chat shows or being interviewed for newspapers, well-wishers would take Vee shopping, sight-seeing, or for a meal.

We couldn't, unfortunately, accept all the kind invitations.

One invitation I leapt at was to "guest" for the St. George club, unhappily bottom of the Phillips League, their equivalent to our Division One. For the first match, against West Adelaide, I succeeded in doubling the crowd at the stadium to 3,000.

I was given a big cheer when I went out after the rest of the team, but there wasn't much cheering following that reception.

After five minutes I hadn't touched the ball. Then an opponent, bursting through into the penalty-area, was brought down by a St. George defender and I found myself facing a penalty-kick.

The taker gave me no chance. And my first touch of the ball was to fish it out of the net.

The goal was the only one of the game.

My next outing was against Adelaide City, and this time we won 2-1. They scored first: a well-taken effort, with a forward running on to a ball crossed from the by-line at

knee-height and making no mistake with his shot.

Again I found myself facing a penalty. Dixie Deans, formerly of Glasgow Celtic, took the kick — and put it wide!

I got the impression the standard of football in Australia is not very high. However, it may improve after players have absorbed some of the lessons of the World Cup.

It was difficult, though, to pass judgment on the Finals after only seeing 13 games.

The Italians began well but gradually deteriorated. There could have been a lot of truth in manager Enzo Bearzot's statement at the outset that his players came to Argentina in a tired state.

Brazil, on the other hand, steadily improved, and were unlucky not to reach the Final.

Holland wrecked their chances of gaining their first-ever win in the Final by abandoning skill and playing too hard.

Argentina, the winners, were a very good side — not the best in the tournament — and possessed some brilliant players in Kempes, Ardiles, Passarella and Luque.

The fans were fantastic. They have a love for the game equal to that of our own Kopites at Liverpool.

I can only gauge how well England would have performed by the achievements of the team that knocked us out in the qualifying round, Italy.

I'm convinced we could have reached the Second Round at least.

Much as I enjoyed my commenting stint, I've no ambition to repeat it in 1982. I want to be between the sticks for England in Spain for the next World Cup!

Ray Thomas

GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!,
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When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Robert Thomas of Lane End, near High Wycombe in Bucks, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

'INSULAR' LEE

IN a Sunday newspaper, Gordon Lee, the Everton manager, was quoted as saying at a dinner in Preston: "If the World Cup is a sample of the game abroad then I want no part of it." Also ... "If that kind of football was shown at Goodison Park there would be no crowd to see it."

I think this attitude is very insular. England must play to their strengths, but there are some good points to be learnt from the game abroad.

If Mr. Lee believes grounds would be empty if the likes of Kempes, Luque, Rensenbrink and Cubillas were playing, he must be daft. Fans would flock to see such stars.

It seems only graft and muscle are important in football to Mr. Lee. Managers must change their attitude and follow the example of Ron Greenwood, a keen student of world football.

● It may not have been a classic World Cup, but there was still much to admire. It was obvious British players still trail behind continentals on close-skills and shooting. I agree, a combination of traditional British qualities with the best of the Continental techniques would improve our game. But then Gordon Lee doesn't seem to be a big fan of Duncan McKenzie, perhaps the nearest England has to a Continental-type player. And, personally, I can't wait to see Ardiles and Villa in action for Spurs.

What Matters?

I WAS surprised at a recent comment by Ray Wilkins. In an article, he said "all that matters in England/Scotland games is the result."

Yet in the same article, he also said "England drew with Brazil, yet won the honours."

Surely, again, all that matters is the result?

GRAHAM ENGLEFIELD,
WOKINGHAM.

● Not necessarily. Games between England and Scotland are very special and can't really be compared with any other matches. England didn't play particularly well at Hampden this year, but won and that made every English fan happy. On the other hand, as England are still on the way back, internationally speaking, their overall per-

formances against Continentals are in some ways more important than the result. But England/Scotland is definitely different!

Better Ref

THE referee in the World Cup Final was poor and very biased towards Argentina. I have sent you a photo of someone who I feel would have made a better referee.

JOHN DOUGLASS,
FRAMPTON.

● I've checked the F.I.F.A. rules and I can't see any Law that says the referee must be a human being ...



Pen-Pal

I AM a 17-year-old Dutch boy and I'd like to exchange opinions, photos and souvenirs with fans of Q.P.R. and Arsenal.

JOHN NOOLJEN,
GREBBEBERGLAAN 4,
56286J EINDHOVEN,
HOLLAND.

World Cup Letters

SINCE the World Cup Finals, my mail-bag has contained hundreds of requests for information about certain players or countries. Unfortunately, it simply isn't possible to answer each letter, just as our Expert cannot reply to individual questions. I'm very sorry, but to answer your letters would take days. We'll be featuring interviews with all the world's top stars, as usual, next season and you'll be able to find out more about your Continental favourites then.

SHOOT recently presented the First Division top scorers since 1919-20. Now we give you the top scorers for the Second, Third and Fourth Divisions from World War Two on...

ONLY ONE player since the 1946-47 season has topped 50 League goals. He was Terry Bly in season 1960-61, and all things considered it was quite a year both for Bly and his club Peterborough United.

Their F.A. Cup feats had made them favourites for election to the Football League and it was no surprise when they won a place in the Fourth Division in August, 1960.

What did shock everyone was their performance in that first season as a League club. They stormed to the Fourth Division title and a Football League record of 134 goals (46 games) with Bly helping himself to 52 of them.

Next in the post-War list comes a player who may well have become one of the greatest scorers of all time. We say "may" because his career came to a tragic end when he broke his right leg playing for Sheffield Wednesday against Preston North End in February, 1953.

Many a player has broken a leg, it is an occupational hazard in soccer, but in Derek Dooley's case gangrene set in and he had his leg amputated.

Football was stunned because Dooley had astounded the football world in his all-too-brief reign as a star. Big, gangling and awkward-looking he may have looked on the field. But he could find the net, as many a team found to their cost.

His 46 goals, a Second Division post-War record, in only 30 League matches in 1951-52, shot Sheffield Wednesday to promotion after The Owls had been near the foot of the Second Division in October, 1951, before Dooley was suddenly given his chance.

The following season in the First Division he had already netted 16 goals in 29 League games when his short career came to an end.

While in the Second Division, we must remember the scoring feats

of a certain Brian Clough who was top scorer for three seasons from 1957-58 while playing for Middlesbrough.

Before the Football League was re-organised into the Third and Fourth Divisions for the 1958-59 season, it was regionised into the Third (South) and Third (North).

Many people are of the opinion it will not be many years before the lower Divisions revert to the former system as the financial positions of the weaker clubs get more serious by the month.

The top post-War scorer in the old Third (South) was Ted Phillips of Ipswich Town in season 1956-57 when the Suffolk club won the Championship.

Phillips was a prolific scorer, and his partnership with Ray Crawford produced many a goal for Ipswich.

Doncaster Rovers fans have not had much to cheer about in recent years. But season 1946-47 saw Rovers pack the crowds in to their

Belle Vue Ground as they ran away with the Third (North) title.

Rovers set up a record 72 points total for that Division. Leading the goal chase was Clarrie Jordan. A stocky, well-built centre who hit 41 goals in as many League appearances. His consistent scoring saw him later transferred to Sheffield Wednesday.

When the League became the new Third and Fourth Divisions, it gave players a chance to set up new records and those who had created them in the Old Third South and North knew their records were safe for all-time.

Top scorer so far in the reformed Third is Derek Reeves of Southampton. He netted 39 goals in season 1959-60 as Saints won the Championship with a two-point margin over Ipswich, scoring 106

goals in the process.

Only two goals behind Reeves' total is Cliff Holton's 37 in 1961-62. He scored them with two clubs that season, Watford and Northampton Town.

Cliff was tailor-made for a centre-forward. Big, strong, good in the air and with one of the hardest shots in the game. Holton's name also pops up in the leading scorers of the Fourth Division. He scored 42 for Watford in the 1959-60 season.

Holton leads us nicely into the Fourth Division scorers and Kevin Hector. Hector played for Bradford Park Avenue when he became that Division's top scorer with 44 goals in season 1965-66.

Avenue that season were the only Fourth Division club to score a century of goals (102), but such are the twists and turns of football, that by the end of 1969-70 Park Avenue were voted out of the Football League.

If Bradford P.A. went down and out, it was the opposite route for Kevin Hector. He went to Derby County, played for England and scored 144 League goals for Derby before departing for American football last season.

Alick Jeffrey was without doubt

52 GOALS IN HIS FIRST LEAGUE SEASON!

Sheffield Wednesday's prolific goalscorer Derek Dooley (number 9), in action against Spurs.



SECOND DIVISION

1946-47	C. Wayman (Newcastle U.)	30
1947-48	E. Quigley (Sheff. Wed.)	23
1948-49	C. Wayman (S'thampton)	32
1949-50	T. Briggs (Grimsby T.)	35
1950-51	J. McCormack (Barnsley)	33
1951-52	D. Dooley (Sheff. Wed.)	46
1952-53	A. Rowley (Leicester C.)	39
1953-54	J. Charles (Leeds U.)	42
1954-55	T. Briggs (Blackburn R.)	33
1955-56	W. Gardiner (Leicester C.)	34
1956-57	A. Rowley (Leicester C.)	44
1957-58	B. Clough (Middlesbro.)	40
1958-59	B. Clough (Middlesbro.)	42
1959-60	B. Clough (Middlesbro.)	39
1960-61	R. Crawford (Ipswich T.)	39
1961-62	R. Hunt (Liverpool)	41
1962-63	R. Tambling (Chelsea)	35
1963-64	R. Saunders (P'tsmouth)	33
1964-65	G. O'Brien (S'thampton)	34
1965-66	M. Chivers (S'thampton)	30
1966-67	R. Gould (Coventry C.)	24
1967-68	J. Hickton (Middlesbro.)	24
1968-69	J. Tosheck (Cardiff C.)	22
1969-70	J. Hickton (Middlesbro.)	24
1970-71	J. Hickton (Middlesbro.)	25
1971-72	R. Latchford (Birm'ham C.)	23
1972-73	D. Givens (Q.P.R.)	23
1973-74	D. McKenzie (Nottm. For.)	26
1974-75	B. Little (Aston Villa)	20
1975-76	D. Hales (Charlton A.)	28
1976-77	M. Walsh (Blackpool)	26
1977-78	B. Hatton (Blackpool)	22



Terry Bly's (left) goals helped Peterborough to the Fourth Division Championship in 1960-61. Cliff Holton (above) topped the charts in 1959-60 for Watford.

THIRD DIVISION (SOUTH)

1946-47	D. Clarke (Bristol C.)	36
1947-48	L. Townsend (Bristol C.)	29
1948-49	D. McGibbon (B'nemouth)	30
1949-50	T. Lawton (Notts Co.)	31
1950-51	W. Ardron (Nottm. For.)	36
1951-52	R. Blackman (Reading)	39
1952-53	G. Bradford (Bristol R.)	33
1953-54	J. English (N'hampton T.)	28
1954-55	E. Morgan (Gillingham)	31
1955-56	R. Collins (Torquay U.)	40
1956-57	E. Phillips (Ipswich T.)	42
1957-58	S. McGrory (Southend U.)	and
	D. Reeves (Southampton)	31

THIRD DIVISION (NORTH)

1946-47	C. Jordan (Doncaster R.)	41
1947-48	J. Hutchinson (L'coln C.)	32
1948-49	W. Ardron (Rotherham U.)	29
1949-50	R. Phillips (Crewe A.)	and
	P. Doherty (Doncaster)	26
1950-51	J. Shaw (Rotherham U.)	37
1951-52	A. Graver (Lincoln C.)	36
1952-53	J. Whitehouse (C'isle U.)	29
1953-54	J. Connor (Stockport Co.)	31
1954-55	D. Travis (Oldham A.)	A. Bottom (York) and
	J. Connor (Stockport Co.)	30
1955-56	R. Crosbie (Grimsby T.)	36
1956-57	R. Straw (Derby Co.)	37
1957-58	A. Ackerman (C'isle U.)	35

THIRD DIVISION

1958-59	E. Towers (Brentford)	32
1959-60	D. Reeves (Southampton)	39
1960-61	A. Richards (Walsall)	36
1961-62	C. Holton (Watford & Northampton)	37
1962-63	G. Hudson (Coventry C.)	30
1963-64	A. Biggs (Bristol Rev.)	30
1964-65	K. Wagstaff (Mansfield & Hull C.)	34
1965-66	L. Allen (Q.P.R.)	30
1966-67	R. Marsh (Q.P.R.)	30
1967-68	D. Rogers (Swindon T.) and R. Owen (Bury)	25
1968-69	D. Rogers (Swindon T.) and B. Lewis (Luton)	22
1969-70	G. Jones (Bury)	26
1970-71	G. Ingram (Preston) and D. Roberts (M'field T.)	22
1971-72	E. MacDougall (B'mouth)	35
1972-73	A. Horsfield (Ch'ton A.) and B. Bannister (Bristol R.)	25
1973-74	W. Jennings (Watford)	26
1974-75	R. McNeil (Hereford U.)	31
1975-76	R. McNeil (Hereford U.)	35
1976-77	P. Ward (Brighton)	32
1977-78	A. Bruce (Preston)	27

FOURTH DIVISION

1958-59	A. Rowley (Shrewsbury)	37
1959-60	C. Holton (Watford)	42
1960-61	T. Bly (Peterborough U.)	52
1961-62	R. R. Hunt (Colchester U.)	37
1962-63	K. Wagstaff (M'field T.) and C. Booth (Doncaster)	34
1963-64	H. McIlmoyle (Carlisle U.)	39
1964-65	A. Jeffrey (Doncaster R.)	36
1965-66	K. Hector (Bradford P.A.)	44
1966-67	E. Phythian (H'lepool U.)	23
1967-68	L. Massie (Halifax T.) and R. Chapman (Port Vale)	25
1968-69	G. Talbot (Chester)	22
1969-70	A. Kinsey (Wrexham)	27
1970-71	E. MacDougall (B'mouth)	42
1971-72	P. Price (P'borough U.)	28
1972-73	F. Binney (Exeter C.)	28
1973-74	B. Yeo (Gillingham)	31
1974-75	R. Clarke (Mansfield T.)	28
1975-76	R. Moore (Tranmere R.)	34
1976-77	B. Joicey (Barnsley)	25
1977-78	S. Phillips (Brentford) and A. Curtis (Swansea)	32

one of the finest prospects in football when he burst upon the scene. He made rapid strides in League football with Doncaster Rovers before getting a double fracture of his right leg playing for England Under 23's at Bristol City's ground against France in October, 1956.

Jeffrey had his leg in plaster for nine months and after two years of wondering if he would play again, it was decided his first-class career was over and both he and his club received compensation from the F.A.

But by the 1959-60 season he was playing for Skegness. In his first match he scored a hat-trick in the first 20 minutes — then suffered a double fracture of his left leg.

Once again Jeffrey refused to give up, he went to Australia and after three years Down-Under wrote to Doncaster asking for a trial.

With the F.A. agreeing not to ask him for the return of £4,000 compensation, Jeffrey, still only 24,



Ipswich's Ted Phillips (above) was the top post-War scorer in the old Third Division (South).

was back in League football. And what a return he made!

In 1964-65 Jeffrey topped the Fourth Division with 36 League goals, and a season later hit 22 more as Doncaster won the Third Division Championship.

But once again Jeffrey's bad luck continued when he fractured his skull in a car crash. But this remarkable player was back scoring a hat-trick for Rovers ten weeks later!

Jeffrey finally finished his League career with Lincoln City in the 1969-70 season.

Another top scorer in the Fourth Division was Ted MacDougall who was then playing for Bournemouth. MacDougall netted 42 goals in 1970-71 as the club won promotion.

The following season MacDougall was top scorer in the Third with 35 League goals. Also that term he scored nine goals in an F.A. Cup First Round match v Margate in an 11-0 Bournemouth victory.

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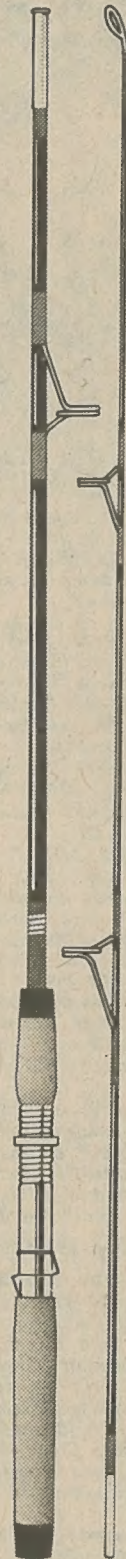
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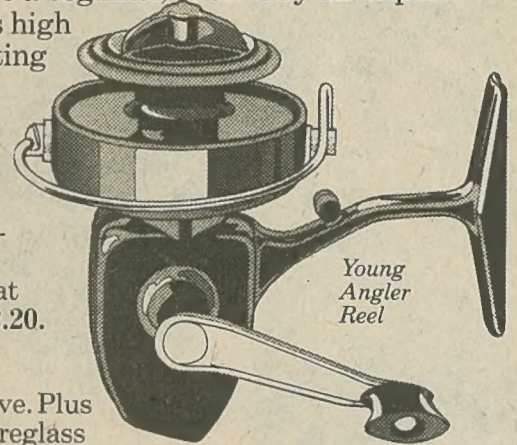
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Newcomer Float Fishing Pack

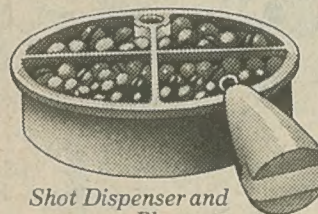
In this you get 200m of nylon line. Three floats. 4 division shot dispenser. And a pack of 6 Mustad hooks to nylon. Price £1.29.

Newcomer Spinning Pack

This has got two Shanny spoons, two Perca spinners and 2 x 12" spinning traces. Price £1.05.

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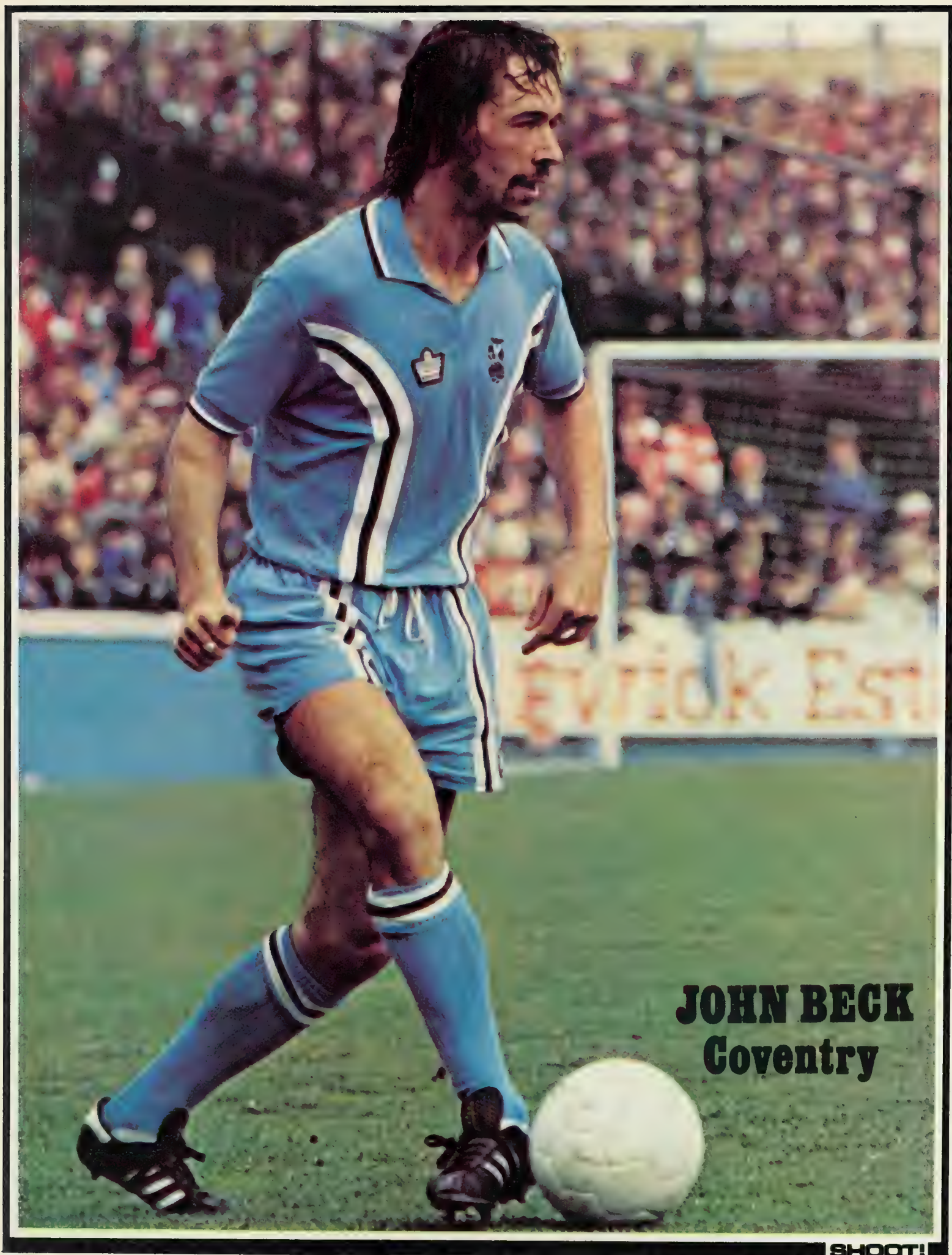
Also at Woolco



Arsenal's Alan Sunderland (above, number 8) does his former Wolves team-mates no favours as he scores for the London side in the F.A. Cup last term. Spurs' Don McAllister (main picture, number 5) hits the only goal of the game against Bolton... a team he left to join Tottenham. Leeds defenders can do nothing to stop Duncan McKenzie (below, right) from scoring for Everton. The former Elland Road star helped his club to a 2-0 win.

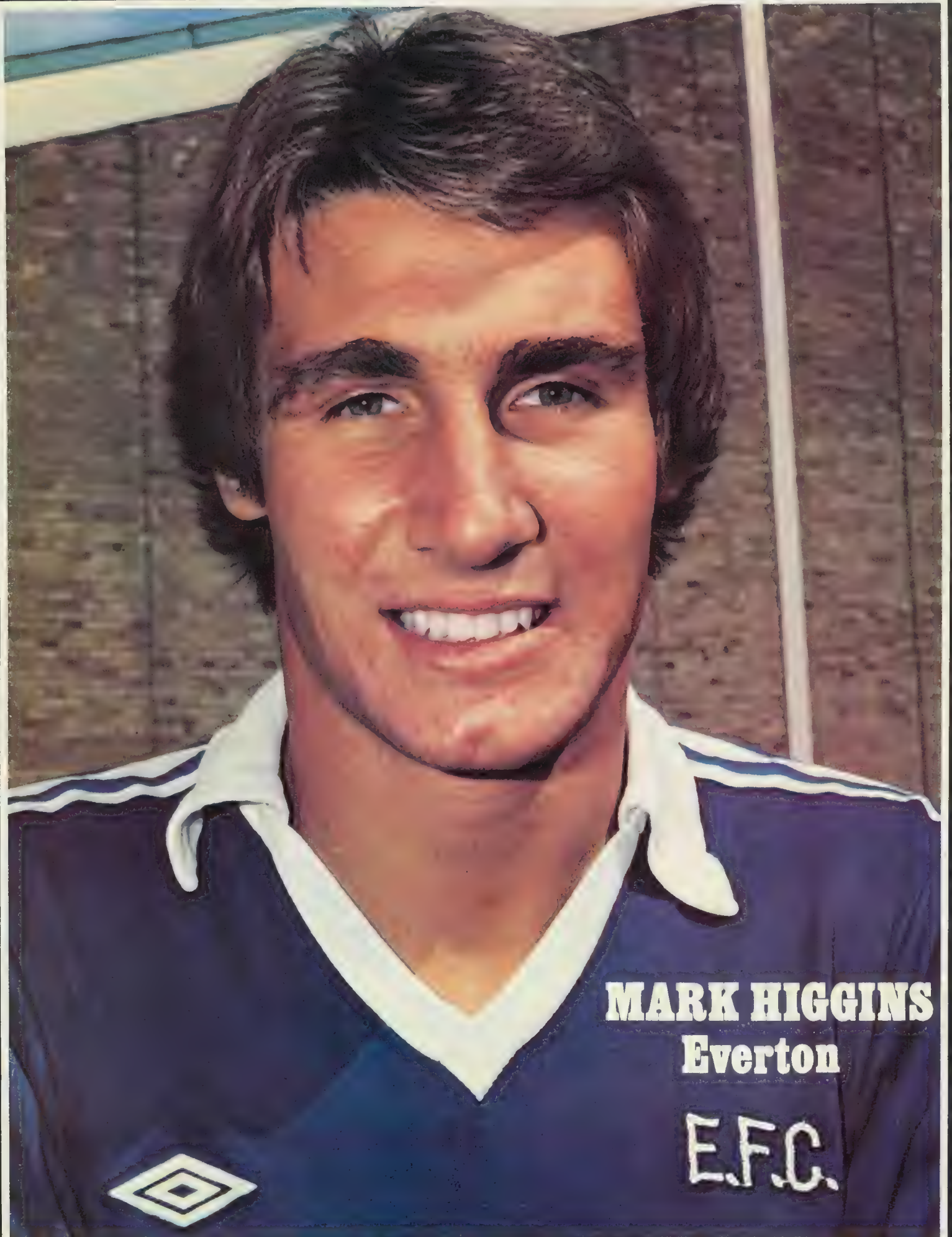


SCORING AGAINST THEIR OLD CLUBS



JOHN BECK
Coventry

SHOOT!



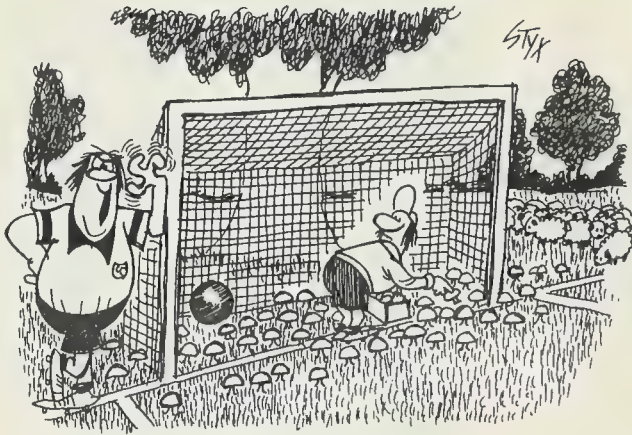
MARK HIGGINS
Everton

E.F.C.

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



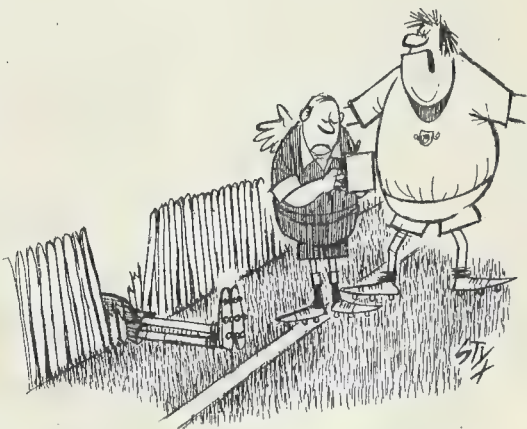
This week Orient's JOHN CHIEDOZIE selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"I'd like a word in your ear — when you've finished picking the mushrooms"



"It's obvious — being pulled up for being offside PROVES you were out of position"



"But I only gave him a gentle little nudge with my elbow"



"I reckon our centre-forward would be the best in the world, boss — if he knew how to score goals"



"Always the same — defiant to the last"

NOBBY

TOO MUCH VIOLENCE ISN'T GOOD FOR YOU



WHY DON'T YOU SWITCH OVER TO THE SOCCER?



I DID, BUT SOMEBODY ROBBED THE SWEEPER AND SHOT AT THE GOALIE



AND IF I TELL HIM TO WATCH THE GOLF SOMEBODY WILL SHOOT AN EAGLE



PHIL DWYER lit a fuse in the British Championship last May: this season will show whether he now explodes into one of the most lethal strikers in British football... or establishes himself as one of the game's most enthusiastic "play-anywhere" specialists.

"To be frank, I can't tell anyone where my future lies — because I don't know myself," says Cardiff City's 24-year-old skipper. "I guess I'll just turn up and see what shirts are lying around in the dressing-room!"

Dwyer, six foot and one of the physically strongest men in the League, first broke into Second Division football as a right-back. There was where he stayed — making enough progress to captain Wales at Under-23 level — before Cardiff manager Jimmy Andrews turned to him in a crisis.

There have been many of those at Ninian Park in recent years and Dwyer has responded to almost all of them that it is now almost impossible to chart his switches in position. The one safely indisputable fact is he has never been selected as goalkeeper.

As a full-back, he has the power and pace to attack boldly along the wings as well as defending brilliantly; as a centre-half, he possesses the height and authority to command his penalty-area; as a midfield player, he produces the energy and driving determination to turn the tide of games going against his team; as a central striker, he possesses fierce heading and shooting power — plus a courage that borders on the kamikaze.

It is as an old-fashioned battling centre-forward that he rocked England's Dave Watson, Scotland's Gordon McQueen and Ireland's Allan Hunter in the British Championship.

He piled in with a zest and vigour that his countryman of a couple of decades ago, Trevor Ford, made his trademark. Dwyer scored an aggressively headed goal against England and rocked the defences of all three home countries with the fearless physical approach that shocked opposing players and some critics.

"If I caught them by surprise, that is their fault," declares Dwyer.

THE CHOICE FACING BATTLING PHIL DWYER



"There's no secret about the way I play. Nor am I going to change my style. It's not done badly for me so far."

Wales manager Mike Smith declares Dwyer's thunderous duel against Watson was "The individual highlight of the Championship" and Dwyer says: "I gave him

some stick and he gave me some. To be fair, none of the England players chipped or moaned as I went in for the ball.

"They didn't even say anything when Trevor Cherry went off after we had collided. We both went for the ball, neither of us was prepared to give way, and he fell awkwardly. I think the England players realised this."

Dwyer's temper is liable to fray at the edges if it is suggested to him his success hinges purely on straightforward physical strength. "I like to think I can play a bit as well. I'm rather proud of the way I use my right peg for instance."

Few experts would quarrel about that. He strikes the ball with accuracy and perfect 'weight' any distance from five yards to 50. Cardiff manager Andrews has worked hard on helping Dwyer acquire that extra polish to his game — because he needs very little else.

"First and foremost, the man is simply one of the great competitors. He does not go out to play games: he goes out to win them. His ambition is fuelled by this desire never to come second."

Referees do not always find Dwyer easy to live with. He possesses just the same brand of committed, raw passion which created men like Ford, Derek Dooley, Roy Bentley and Nat Lofthouse. As yet — after no more than a couple of dozen games at centre-forward — he has still to acquire the finishing technique which those bustling marksmen linked to their fearless

football... but Dwyer is improving all the time.

In his first international, against World Cup qualifiers Iran, he smashed in the match-winning goal and could have started with a hat-trick if one header had not hit the bar and another been disallowed after appearing to be a perfect goal. Then came his sensational plunge into the British Championship.

"I reckon I've made a start. That's all," says Dwyer. "I want to stay in the Wales side for as long as I can and play First Division football. Against those two targets, the controversy about where to play comes second — but I did appreciate the chance to switch to right-back against Scotland when Malcolm Page was injured. It was another chance to show what I could do."

Perhaps the most remarkable statistic in Dwyer's career — especially in view of the way he plays — is his freedom from injury. He is approaching 300 first team games for Cardiff and has missed just one, early last season, when he sustained a groin injury.

Misfortune

Apart from that his only spell of inactivity has resulted from his one losing battle — when a wardrobe he was man-handling fell downstairs on top of him and broke a leg. First game back from that misfortune and he played with the same battling style as always!

Even his celebrated 'kiss-of-life' resuscitation on the pitch at Gillingham three years back did not affect him. He was back in the first team again the following Saturday!

"I was always taught the one certain way to become injured was to go half-hearted into the tackle," says Dwyer by way of an explanation. And being half-hearted is something of which he is unlikely to be accused!

Phil Dwyer (dark strip, on ground) heads a fine goal for Wales against England in last season's British Championship game at Ninian Park.



1978-79

PREPARING FOR

Comments by four players on getting back into

NO MATTER how you approach the first two weeks of training for the new season, it is always hard. Indeed, if players had this sort of training at Christmas, with four months of playing behind them, they would still find it very demanding work.

But with many players doing voluntary summer training, and going abroad on close-season tours, muscles are more in condition than they would have been if left inactive between the end of April and July. Not that I'm particularly in favour of tours, as I prefer a rest away from competitive football in the summer — not only physically but mentally, players have had enough soccer during the season.

Of course, there are two reasons for touring, one of them being the club makes money out of it, and secondly, it is arranged sometimes as a reward to the team for the effort put in during the season. Also, some players enjoy a trip abroad, and I can see their point, especially if it is not arduous.

But ideally, I like time at home in the summer, and keep fit by doing a regular half-hour daily stint in a park near my house. In addition, in June I did some work-outs with a local semi-professional side. Oddly enough, I lose weight in the close-season, and put on a couple of pounds when I resume playing — this is because I usually eat more once



'Coaches can soon spot the malingerers' — John Wile

(West Bromwich Albion)

the season proper has started.

In general, I don't think players have excessive weight worries, and when Don Howe was with West Bromwich, he had his own way of reminding the team to guard against putting on extra pounds. At the end of the season, Don would hand each player a slip of paper on which was written the weight he expected the player to be when he reported back at the ground in July. Any player who had gained additional poundage during the summer



West Brom's black strikers Cyrille Regis (left) and Laurie Cunningham enjoy a break during training.

was given a week in which to get rid of it — or pay a fine. I think the method was effective, because I can't recall anyone being fined.

Fortunately, along with the grind of the training at the start of a new season, there is also some humour. On one long-distance run, Colin Suggett, who had just joined West Bromwich, suddenly raced past us. His burst of energy aroused our admiration and drew some comments. Colin, however, suffered from the mistaken impression the hill

just ahead of him marked the end of the run — instead, there was another mile to go. So it was an exhausted, out-of-breath colleague we left lying on the hillside as we cantered past.

A last word on start - of - the - season training — no player can shirk it or get away with giving less than 100 per cent effort. A manager or coach can soon spot malingerers — and even if a player does cheat in his approach, he will only be a fool to himself.



'Excellent preparation for playing in Europe' — Steve Coppel (Man. United)

THE TRAINING when we report back to Old Trafford for duty is punishing — but with some coaching work I did earlier in July keeping me in trim, I'm hoping I'll soon get back into the swing of things.

And I'm not carrying any excess weight. By mid-July I was two pounds lighter than I was during last season, due to my being careful about my diet. Although I must confess I believe in eating whatever I feel like, and also taking the occasional drink, over a two-week spell in the close season. By utterly relaxing, I feel mentally and physically rested for that fortnight, then I revert to my routine of watching what I eat.

A British player over a year, doesn't have a great deal of time in which to take things easy. The Germans, for example, have a month off in the middle of their soccer season. In my own case, I've had four- and - a - half weeks off in the last

year, and I think the average English First Division player is rarely short of match fitness.

Pre-season tours are something I favour, preferring them to long sessions of lapping, and I am always interested in the way people live in other countries and their language. Also, playing abroad in the summer can be excellent preparation for a club appearing in European Cup competitions.

So in assessing the demanding schedule of training at the start of a season, I can sum it up by saying the modern habit of a certain amount of summer training indulged in by most players prepares them for the rigorous work that lies ahead. Constant activity keeps you fit, and I don't mind a programme of two games a week in the football season — the fans seem to like it, and I remember I was once one of them myself.



THE NEW SEASON...

training and the value of warm-up tours

'Not the most popular part of the year'
— Tommy Craig (Aston Villa)



Aston Villa boss Ron Saunders puts Tommy Craig through some extra training.

THE FIRST ten days to a fortnight of pre-season training are very rigorous, and I particularly loathe lapping the track. But I just put my head down and keep on going, knowing I'll get through it eventually.

More often than not, the sun is shining brightly and the weather hot when training starts in July.

Yet, although the July training sessions are certainly not the most popular part of the year for me, I can't help thinking it must have been much more of an ordeal for the players before the Second World War. In those days, soccer tours abroad were more of a rarity than they are now, and players were usually totally inactive between the end of April until late in July. So when teams reported after the summer break, the tough training must have been agony for muscles and limbs which hadn't been used for almost three months.

Nowadays, many players train two or three days a week during the summer, and consequently they are in fair shape, with little weight to lose, by the time official pre-season training gets under way.

Following a leg operation, I've been doing close-season work, and although the full-time July training will be gruelling, my self-imposed summer workouts will help me to get into the swing of it without too much suffering.

About close-season tours abroad, I believe when players have been together throughout a normal season they should have a spell away from each other. Even in clubs where there is a great team spirit, constant proximity can be boring, and very wearing on the players. So for myself, I would prefer having a rest from competitive football for about ten weeks.



Manchester United players seem happy after a gruelling day.

WHEN WE report back for training just before the start of the season, we fully expect to be almost 100 per cent fit. This is because of a ten day pre-season tour in Sweden by Wolves, involving five games, followed by three friendly matches in England. These matches are meant to take the place of typical pre-season training, such as cross-country runs, which can become boring after a while and nobody should be over-weight at the end of our match-practice.

In fact, I can recall only one over-weight player at Molineux, and that was Steve Kindon, now with Burnley. Steve had put on a fair amount of weight one summer, and when he dressed in a plastic cover-all outfit to help him shed the extra poundage, we kidded him he looked like an oven-ready chicken!

Generally speaking, I believe in players having six or seven weeks of complete rest away from football. However, it is a fact tours are a good method of getting the players together again before August comes along — and this summer, the tour I made with the England "B" team was the sort of trip I'm glad to make.

In the final stages of last season, Wolves had to fight against relegation, and there was considerable pressure on the players, mentally and physically. Following that sort of season, I feel bodies are ready for a rest, and muscles should be given time to unwind.

Our manager, Sammy Chung,



'Our tour will make us almost fully-fit'
John Richards (Wolves)

arranged our pre-season programme to give us a change of scenery and take us out of the rut of our usual activities.

Ordinarily, although we are still in shape at the end of a season, a long break without much activity means stamina-sapping work lies ahead in the struggle to reach match fitness. So a tour of the sort we've undertaken should solve any fitness problems.



Willie Carr (left) and Kenny Hinkitt about to sprint across the pitch.

BRIGHT



first team, but even that's been enough to show he has plenty of talent to offer.

At 5ft. 6in., and only slightly built, blond-haired Mark only looks a slip of a lad. But anyone who thinks they can take advantage of that are in for a rude awakening.

Clearly the skill is there to leave more than one opponent tackling thin air.

"I've operated mainly on the wing up to now," says Heeley. "But it's in midfield where I hope to make my name."

"I know I still have a lot to learn. I've got to brush up on my heading, and my left foot, if I'm going to make it in the top flight. But I do believe in myself, and that's important."

Across North London to Tottenham, where Neil McNab looks set to stamp his class on Spurs' return to the First Division.

The 20-year-old's surprise inclusion in Ally MacLeod's

original Scottish World Cup 40 shows just how highly he is rated.

"I matured last season," McNab reflects. "Previously I wanted to go out and look good myself, instead of concentrating on winning the game. Now I just want to do what is best for the team."

"I still like to use my skills, of course, but only when it's on. Like all the other lads here, I'm really looking forward to next season, particularly with the chance to play alongside Argentinians Ardiles and Villa."

Chelsea can boast a number of promising players, among them Clive Walker.

With more and more sides reverting to wingers, Clive obviously has a very important part to play for the Stamford Bridge club.

He possesses an electrifying turn of speed, as well as being able to convert goal-scoring opportunities.

Clive says: "I'm looking to build on what I achieved last season."

And that means plenty of hard work. I have always regarded myself as a winger who can score goals, and I'll be looking to hit the net regularly next season."

At 23, Queens Park Rangers' Paul McGee is no youngster in footballing terms, but he is a newcomer manager Frank Sibley has high hopes of.

"Paul's a real trier who chases lost causes and converts them into potential winning situations," says Sibley. "He gives us a target, and defenders now know they can't leave him for one minute."

"He really could establish himself next season."

At Upton Park they're expecting great things from tall, gangling Alvin Martin, who performed so well when drafted into the centre of West Ham's defence at the tail-end of last season.

Says manager John Lyall: "Alvin

Clive Walker's (left) wing play had the Chelsea fans buzzing last season. Fulham boss Bobby Campbell is hoping Tony Gale (below) will help the side to promotion. At only 17, Millwall's Dave Mehmet (right) is an exciting prospect.



IT'S an indisputable fact the trophy cabinets of London's soccer clubs have been woefully short of silverware over the last few years.

But with every new season comes fresh hope.

So, as the sides rev-up for another campaign, we thought it would be a good time to take a look at just some of the bright, young talent the Capital's clubs have on their books.

Players who could be hitting the headlines in a big way in the months to come, and helping to put their clubs back on the winning trail.

Down at Highbury, we've already seen the emergence of lads like Liam Brady, David Price, Graham Rix and Frank Stapleton. But the new one to watch at Arsenal next season could well be Mark Heeley.

Snapped up from Peterborough for £50,000, the youngster has so far only had the odd game in the

LIGHTS OF LONDON



Despite relegation, Alvin Martin (left) played well in the centre of the West Ham defence. Crystal Palace full-back Ken Sansom (right) is one of a long line of promising youngsters at Selhurst Park.



has been with us four years, and I have been delighted with the progress he has made.

"The lad certainly has a lot going for him. He's much more than the usual central defender. He's a good user of the ball, and loves to join the attack."

Alvin himself is optimistic about the coming season.

"It was difficult to get into the team last term, with Tommy Taylor, Billy Bonds and Bill Green all on call," he says. "But I finally made it, and I'm hoping I established myself enough to get an extended run this time."

A youngster with the tongue-twisting name of Tunji Banjo made his League debut for Orient last term, and immediately had boss Jimmy Bloomfield bubbling.

"Banjo has everything a manager could ask for — the ability to run, tackle, head the ball and beat people," enthused Bloomfield.

"And he has the attitude which says 'Come on, give me the ball, I'll show you what I can do with it.' It's really wonderful to see a boy show the sheer joy of wanting to play."

Millwall's season wasn't only lifted by their eventual escape from relegation to the Third Division. Manager George Petchey was equally delighted by the



Arsenal spotted the talent of young Mark Heeley (above) and paid around £50,000 to Peterborough to secure his services. Paul McGee (right) made a big impression with Queens Park Rangers last term.



emergence of 17-year-old carrot-topped Dave Mehmet.

"Last season was a difficult one to blood youngsters," says Petchey. "But Dave's made of strong stuff. He really did us proud up-front, particularly as previously he'd been playing in midfield for the reserves. But then he's what I call a natural footballer, with good vision, and he can pass a ball with accuracy and pace."

Clearly there is a lot more to come.

The same can be said of several of the side Terry Venables is building at Crystal Palace.

Billy Gilbert, Terry Fenwick and Gerry Murphy — all exciting prospects. But the two to watch could be Vince Hilaré and 19-year-old defender, Kenny Sansom, who reflects the optimism in the club when he says: "Winning promotion to the Second Division in 1977 was my first taste of success, and now I'm hungry for more."

"I believe we have a real chance of promotion again next season."

Fulham manager Bobby Campbell is another who is pinning his hopes on youth.

"Lads like Tony Gale, Brian Greenaway, Tony Mahoney and Steve Hatter have already made their mark on the first team," said Campbell. "And they can only get better."

"I'm very happy about our prospects for the future."

"I know you can't rush a young player, but there comes a time when only experience at the top level will tell if he has got what it takes."

Whether London's youngsters, the ones we've mentioned here, or the ones we simply didn't have room for, have got what it takes to lift their respective clubs to greater things, only time will tell.

But quite clearly, the future looks a lot brighter than it has done for some time.

CONCEDING a goal in the dying minutes of a game is one of the worst feelings in soccer. You have the match sewn-up, then — one slip — and you let the other team back in.

Chelsea were guilty of this soccer sin too often last season, about five times if my memory serves me correctly. Games we'd virtually won were suddenly changed completely and Chelsea fan Peter Isden of Ealing has written to me asking what happened on these occasions.

Usually lack of concentration, Peter. Football is played over 90 minutes, not 85, and no team must ever let-up until the final whistle.

One match that stands out in my memory is the one at Derby. We had "murdered" The Rams, even though we led just 1-0. Two points were ours . . . or so we thought.

Derby attacked, we failed to clear the ball properly, and they equalised. For the last two or three minutes we were hanging on to save one point when two had seemed certain!

for a high ball and the Everton striker went down. Personally, I don't think it was a penalty. The ref DID — and Bob slammed the ball past Peter Bonetti.

This brings me to a letter from Chichester reader James Kenley, who asks: "Have you ever been a penalty-taker?"

Yes, at school I used to take all our spot-kicks and my record was good.

I used to take them for Chelsea, too, but after missing three out of five I decided to hand the job over to someone else. My confidence had gone because on each occasion I thought I'd struck the ball well.

Peter Mellor saved one when we played Fulham in an Anglo-Scottish Cup-tie a few years back. That penalty wasn't as vital as the other two I missed.

The second was against Bolton Wanderers at Stamford Bridge and with both of us pushing for promotion to Division One, the match was obviously very important.

We were 1-0 down and with five



ABOVE . . . "Bob Latchford at his 30-goal presentation party. But was the Everton striker's 30th goal 'genuine'?"

RIGHT . . . "I can only watch as Mel Eves scores Wolves' last-gasp goal at Stamford Bridge."

BELOW . . . "I wrongly tipped Arsenal to beat Ipswich at Wembley."



'VITAL POINTS DROPPED IN THE FINAL MINUTES'

I don't think we actually lost a game in this way, but we certainly dropped vital points by not concentrating 100 per cent for the full 90 minutes.

Mind you, justice was done on one occasion, against Wolves at Stamford Bridge. The Molineux club equalised with the referee looking at his watch, yet they'd had a perfectly good goal disallowed earlier by what everyone (except the ref) considered to be a dreadful offside decision.

I was involved in that last-gasp mix-up, as the picture shows. The ball was crossed from the right and went over myself and Micky Droy. Martin Patching headed it down and goalkeeper Peter Bonetti could only push the ball out. It fell to Mel Eves and in a scramble he had about four shots, the last going in the top of our goal. Wolves, perhaps, deserved that equaliser, although from our point of view it was a bad goal to give away so late in the game.

Talking of goals, Tony Colbrook who lives in Liverpool (and, I'm sure, is an Everton supporter!) wants to know what it was like playing in the match when Bob Latchford scored his 30th League goal . . . thus winning a £10,000 prize from the Daily Express.

It was marvellous for Everton — awful for us! They thumped us 6-2, with Bob scoring two.

I'm pleased he reached that elusive total, although I'd have preferred he achieved it against someone else! I must, however, say I don't think it was a justified penalty, which led to goal number 30.

Bob and Micky Droy challenged

minutes or so to go we were awarded a penalty. I hit the ball well and I was sure it was going in, when Barry Siddall leapt across his goal to save.

My other miss was against York City and the score in that particular game was 0-0 . . . another point dropped.

Now, Kenny Swain takes our penalties and his record is three out of three. I have no desire to take them ever again, although if it came to the crunch and no one else

fancied the job I'd do it.

I receive all sorts of letters from SHOOT readers and Jane Spencer,

**RAY
WILKINS**
writes for you

from East Ewell, would like to know the most unusual request I've ever had.

That's a hard one, Jane. I'm often asked for souvenirs, such as shirts — and tickets! — but I haven't really had an out-of-the-ordinary request. And that's not a hint, either!

I've signed the plaster on supporters' broken arms and legs, but that's about all.

A few Arsenal supporters have reminded me I tipped their side to beat Ipswich Town and win the F.A.





Cup Final. It's little consolation that most people did!

I thought Ipswich played extremely well and I thoroughly enjoyed the Final, which was a credit to football.

I was pleased for Mick Mills and Brian Talbot, who I've got to know through being together with England.

Paul Mariner impressed me with his unselfish running and this created gaps for the likes of Brian and John Wark to exploit. On the wing, Clive Woods was magic and overall it was a first-class performance from the exciting Ipswich side.

Arsenal? Well . . . they may have lost the Cup, but it was still a good season for them. They played some brilliant football and apart from qualifying for the U.E.F.A. Cup, they also reached the Semi-Finals of the League Cup. Add their Wembley appearance and you have what can hardly be called a poor season.

Deserved

People over-reacted to their Cup Final defeat. Okay, they didn't play well and Ipswich deserved to win, there can be no doubt about that.

Malcolm Macdonald had a disappointing game, yet talk of selling him seems silly to me. He's the sort of player you can always rely upon to score around 25 goals and strikers like that are few and far between. Would you bet AGAINST Malcolm reaching his usual total next season?

The trouble is, people forget all the good things after a Cup Final defeat, but Arsenal are still going to

be a force to be reckoned with in the future.

One final letter, from Christopher Lester of Cambridge. "Do you think it would be a good idea to reduce the First Division to 18 clubs?"

Before that question can be answered, you must ask another: how could it be done?

Structure

Would you relegate four clubs from Division One and have no promotion from Division Two? Presumably the whole structure of the Football League would have to be altered.

Things are bad enough with three relegation places. With four teams going down, sides in trouble would play so defensively I can visualise both teams having all 11 men in their own penalty-areas with the ball bobbing about in-between!

A Super League is good in some ways . . . less fixtures for a start. Yet there are so many problems to be overcome in making it realistic that I can't see it ever happening.

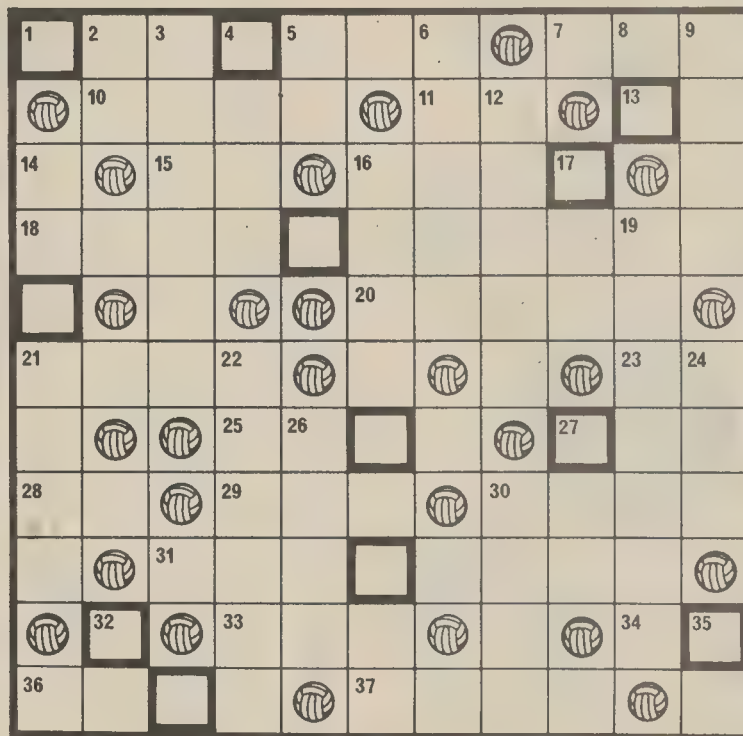
I don't think the clubs in Division Two would like playing a season with no prospects of promotion. Or would you play seven down and three up for one season?

See you again in a fortnight,

Raymond

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Norwich City midfielder. Answers on Page 42.



ACROSS:—

- (1) They won the F.A. Cup in 1969/70 (beating Leeds).
- (7) Sunderland, The Black ---s.
- (10) ---eter C---y from St. James' Park.
- (11) Steve Kin---n of Burnley.
- (13) Ma---r Road Ground, Oxford United.
- (15) Mark H-ggin-, Everton defender.
- (16) Opposite of won.
- (18) World Cup winners in 1974 (4 & 7)
- (20) Take five letters from Hibernian to make "senseless".
- (21) Alistair Rob-r--o- (W.B.A.). Bird's home from the missing letters.
- (23) Keith ---ller of Leicester City.
- (25) Po-t --l- from Vale Park, "Assert" from the missing letters.
- (27) -tock-ort Count- from Edgeley Park.
- (28) Willie M--gan of Bolton Wanderers.
- (29) T-n-ca-tle Park (Heart of Midlothian).
- (30) A--t-n Gat-, Bristol City's ground.
- (31) Paul ---, Burnley striker.
- (33) Roger -sbo-n- of Ipswich Town.
- (34) Jim Hol--n of Coventry City.
- (36) Number of clubs relegated from Division Three at the end of a season.
- (37) Disputes . . . which should be kept off the pitch at all times.

DOWN:—

- (2) Joe -arp-r of Aberdeen and Scotland.
- (3) Add Steve Sims' initials to 10 Across to make "lives".
- (4) Roll of names . . . the team perhaps.
- (5) --- Johnstone, from Muirton Park, Scotland.
- (6) Take five letters from Dumbarton to give "decorate".
- (8) Jimmy M--n of Bristol City.
- (9) --- Brown, West Bromwich Albion midfielder-striker.
- (12) Russell ---, Ipswich Town defender.
- (14) --- Town, The Robins of the Third Division.
- (16) --- City, relegated from the First Division last season.
- (17) Por-m-- Road, Ipswich's ground.
- (19) --- County, "The Ironsides" of the Fourth Division.
- (22) Tommy --- of West Ham United.
- (24) T-rr- McD-rmott of Liverpool.
- (26) Change direction from four letters found in Everton.
- (27) ---field United are nicknamed The Blades.
- (30) Old --- Ground of Scunthorpe United.
- (32) Gerry --w of Bristol City.
- (35) Dennis R--e of Leicester City.

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- 1977 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Villa's Hat-trick.
- 1976 UEFA CUP
Liverpool v. Bruges
- 1976 FA CUP FINAL
Super Saints
- 1976 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Man. City v. Newcastle
- 1976 KINGS OF SCOTLAND
Rangers v. Hearts
- 1975 F.A. CUP FINAL
Hill To The Hammer
- 1975 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Viva The Villal
- 1974 F.A. CUP FINAL
Liverpool's Cup
- 1974 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Wonderful Wolves!
- 1973 F.A. CUP FINAL
Sunderland's Cup
- 1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Norwich
- 1972 F.A. CUP FINAL
Leeds v. Arsenal
- 1972 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Salute to Stoke!
- 1971 F.A. CUP FINAL
Arsenal v. Liverpool
- 1971 EURO CUP WINNERS
Chelsea v. R. Madrid
- 1971 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Aston Villa
- 1970 F.A. CUP FINAL
Chelsea's Cup
- 1966/70 WORLD CUP
Finals & Semi-Finals
- 1968 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Man. Utd. v. Benfica
- CELTIC SOUVENIR
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- *1972 Leeds 1, Arsenal 0..... 100ft
- *1971 Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1..... 200ft
- 1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 2..... 100ft
- 1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1..... 100ft
- 1969 Man City 1, Leicester 0..... 100ft
- 1968 WBA 1, Everton 0..... 200ft
- 1967 Spurs 2, Chelsea 1..... 200ft
- 1966 Everton 3, Sheff. Wed. 2..... 300ft
- 1965 Liverpool 2, Leeds 1..... 200ft
- 1964 West Ham 3, Preston 2..... 200ft
- 1963 Man. Utd 3, Leicester 1..... 200ft
- 1962 Spurs 3, Burnley 1..... 100ft
- 1960 Wolves 3, Blackburn 0..... 100ft
- 1959 Nott'ham F. 2, Luton 1..... 100ft
- 1958 Bolton 2, Man. Utd. 0..... 100ft
- 1957 Aston Villa 2, Man. Utd. 1..... 100ft
- 1953 Blackpool 4, Bolton 3..... 100ft
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- 1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1..... 200ft/400ft
- 1966 Man. Utd. 5, Benfica 1..... 200ft
- 1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1..... 200ft
- 1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3..... 200ft/400ft

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS

- 1963 Spurs 5, At. Madrid 1..... 200ft
- 1965 West Ham 2, TSV Munich 0..... 200ft

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- *1975 Aston Villa 1, Norwich 0..... 100ft
- *1974 Wolves 2, Man. City 1..... 100ft
- 1973 Spurs 1, Norwich 0..... 100ft
- 1972 Stoke 2, Chelsea 1..... 200ft
- 1971 Spurs 2, Aston V. 0..... 50ft
- 1967 Q.P.R. 3, W.B.A. 2..... 200ft

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also 400ft b/w SOUND
- 1975 England 5, Scotland 1..... 200ft
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Will Forest turn out to be 'one-season wonders' — or will they surpass their 'first-ever' double?

THE popular belief throughout almost the whole of the 1977-78 season was that Nottingham Forest's luck was bound to run out. How could a club which only scraped out of the Second Division by the skin of its teeth have the audacity to outstrip thoroughbreds like Liverpool, Manchester City and Everton?

Everyone outside of Brian Clough, Peter Taylor and his players seemed sure that Forest's success was a fluke — that the man's Midas touch would eventually desert him.

Well, it didn't. And Clough is entitled to laugh at the knockers.

But now the next question is "Can Forest do it again next season, or will they be one-year wonders?"

You can imagine Cloughie's retort to that though he does accept that next season is going to be that much harder.

He is wise and battle-hardened enough to know that Forest won't catch so many teams on the hop next time. He is also shrewd enough to think of something that will keep Forest in the front seat, just as he did at Derby, another club he converted from a run-down, rusty machine to a slick, well-oiled Rolls-Royce.

Clough's extraordinary impact at the City Ground is not underrated by anyone, yet perhaps his most important asset, goalkeeper Peter Shilton, will tell you that not even Clough could have made such a startling achievement without a hefty contribution from his players.

"It's been a terrific effort on everybody's part, and when maybe one or two players have been having off-days someone else has always risen to the occasion."

'Plugging Gaps'

"We don't have the biggest pool in the First Division, yet players like Ian Bowyer, Frank Clark, John O'Hare and Larry Lloyd have been invaluable, plugging gaps all over the field whenever we've had injury problems."

"People are already predicting that we'll come a cropper next season, but remember that we haven't just one trophy — we've done the double. No other team has ever won the League and the League Cup in the same season, and I can't see us slipping."

"Also we played around 60 matches and only lost four. You can't tell me that a side as consistent as that is suddenly going to blow up overnight."

Brian Clough himself remained remarkably tight-lipped all season, even amid his moments of triumph.

He must go down in the history books as the only manager who

Brian Clough made headline news by leading Forest to the League Cup and Championship double last season. Peter Shilton (below) perhaps the team's most valuable player.



refused to be interviewed after winning the League title.

Instead his trusty aide Peter Taylor was sent out to face the music, while the boss celebrated quietly in the dressing-room.

When asked on television, minutes after securing the title at Coventry, where Clough was, Peter told David Coleman: "He should be out here talking to you, but he's in the dressing-room sipping his champagne. He might talk to you later."

Well, he didn't. Indeed he also declined to be interviewed on radio, contenting himself by nominating "Anyone from Nottingham Forest" to deputise for him.

But Cloughie did reveal in a rare pre-match interview that he'd kept a low profile because there was so much work to do at Nottingham and he didn't want to be deflected from it.

"I haven't the time to be doing interviews every day of the week. Perhaps when we've won a few things I might be able to sit back, take things a little easier and start talking to radio and television

again, but for now I have too much to do," he said.

He added that Forest's success could not be analysed, except that everyone at the club had worked "damned hard" to get them to the top.

And in answer to the point that most managers worked hard but without such spectacular results, Clough commented that at Forest they weren't afraid of thrashing out problems. No single player in the club could be guaranteed a place every week, and therefore there was no danger of complacency.

Whatever the formula, Forest certainly enjoyed what may or may not turn out to have been their greatest ever season.

Players like Martin O'Neill, David Needham, John Robertson and Ian Bowyer have tasted success, after years of toil, that they probably never dreamed of.

Others like Peter Withe and Kenny Burns blossomed beyond imagination, and for youngsters like Viv Anderson and Tony Woodcock it was an early introduction to the sweet side of soccer.





PETTER BARNES
Manchester City and England

JIMMY CASE WINS THE 'PRIX BRAVO '78'

LIVERPOOL criss-crossed Europe again as they had another triumphant year. East Berlin, Lisbon, Monchengladbach, Wembley and Ravenna were all staging posts for the Anfield club.

But before The Kop rise as one voice and ask what the heck has Ravenna to do with Liverpool, I will explain.

Jimmy Case is the answer to the mystery of Ravenna. Jimmy won a new major European trophy named the Prix Bravo '78, organised by the Italian magazine *Guerin Sportivo*.

He topped the Poll of votes cast by representatives from European football publications — including David Gregory, SHOOT Editor — after each round of last season's matches in the three major European trophies.

Case was obviously surprised as we sat in the large and impressive Cento Internazionale at Ravenna near the Adriatic Coast on a hot July evening.

He told me as the 2,400 present roared their applause as star after star of Italian football took their places at the tables. "When I heard about this two months earlier I thought it was just another sports award."

"I didn't realise until I arrived in Ravenna with my wife Lana a week before just how big the honour is."

It was truly a "Night of the Stars" as the Italians named it. World Cup stars Paolo Rossi (Italy's Player of the Year) and Antonio Cabrini were there. To be a soccer star in Italy is to be worshipped by the youngest to the oldest fan throughout the land.

The evening was the equivalent of the P.F.A. awards night in London. Many players received

SHOOT's John Pyke reports from the presentation of a new award for the outstanding young player in European club competition

trophies and time after time the large hall erupted as the names were called out. Apart from Rossi and Cabrini, Roberto Filippi led the rest of the cast that also included Dutch World Cup player Erny Brandts.

While Guiseppe Savoldi — one of Italy's former World Cup heroes who now plays for Napoli, and also a singing star — sang his latest hit-song.

It had been the remarkable consistency from the Liverpool player that had won him the award. As he said: "When you see players like Cabrini and Brandts and so many other great players who were in European action last season, I realise to be placed first is indeed a great honour."

"Even more so as the votes were taken after each round and NOT after Liverpool had retained the European Cup."

For the record, Case received 131 votes, a very clear winner from Abdel Krimau (Bastia) on 69 votes and Ilue Balaci (Uni Craiova, Rumania) with 45 votes. To add to the tension, the whole show was recorded by RAI TG2 to be shown in full two nights later on Italian Television.

Luckily for Jimmy, I was able to tell him Liverpool had drawn Nottingham Forest in the European Cup before he collected his award. It was one of the first

questions he was asked by the interviewer. Most of the Italians found it amusing the two English clubs are to clash at the first hurdle.

He said: "It will be a tough game, but I am confident we will advance to the next round as all of us at Anfield have our eyes on a third European Cup win. But it is a great pity the two clubs had to meet so early. It would have been nice to have met in a later round — even the Final!"

The Italians, still cock-a-hoop at reaching Argentina at England's expense, asked Case about our chances in the European Championship. With a grin, he replied: "Don't worry, England will try a little harder than we did in the World Cup."

His personal ambition next season is to win a full England cap to go with his Under-21 honours. "When six Liverpool players were in the squad for the match v. Switzerland, I thought I had my best chance as I was playing very well at the time. I woke up in the morning to listen to the squad and was very disappointed to hear I was not among the Anfield six. I am determined to win a place in the England team this coming season."

An England cap will climax a great few months for Jimmy Case as he remembers the night in Italy he topped all the stars in Europe in the first presentation of a coveted new award.



*Jimmy Case (above) is presented with his award from Italo Cucci (left), Editor of *Guerin Sportivo*. Case (below, second left) with Roberto Filippi (left) and Italian World Cup stars Paolo Rossi and Antonio Cabrini.*



BREMNER, William J — that is how the Football League retained list informed us one of the greatest players ever to wear the shirt of Leeds United and Scotland had been given a free transfer by Hull City.

In Billy's case it is a technical transfer by Hull City to abide by the rules of the Football League. Billy had already announced the 1977-78 season was to be his last.

But if Billy decided to change his mind as training got under way and his feet began to itch to get back into action, then he could sign for another club without a fee being paid.

game for Oxford at Swindon on March 27th.

Remember Barry Lloyd? He sat on the substitutes' bench as Fulham lost 2-0 to West Ham in the 1975 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley.

Barry was later to skipper a Fulham side that included Bobby Moore and Rodney Marsh before finishing the 1977-78 term with Fourth Division Brentford.

Three players who had played for Middlesbrough were given free transfers in the summer. First was Eric McMorrie, who had appeared in 241 League games for Boro before

going first to York City and finally Hartlepool. Eric was also a regular in the Northern Ireland international side for several seasons.

Where also will be the next port of call for Alf Wood? One of the soccer nomads, who gave fine service wherever he stopped and put on a pair of boots.

Manchester City, Shrewsbury Town, Millwall, Hull City, Middlesbrough and Walsall all benefited from the goals Alf scored for them. His longest spell was at Shrewsbury's Gay Meadow for whom he played 258 League games and

scored 64 goals.

Walsall gave him a free transfer this summer after he had spent one season at Fellows Park.

Thirdly comes Alan Foggon. Not only did Alan play for Middlesbrough, but he also performed a unique treble by appearing for the other two big North-East clubs Newcastle United and Sunderland. Alan also played for Cardiff City, made three substitute appearances for Manchester United before finishing last season with Southend United.

These are just a few of the stars who will bring back memories for supporters as they seek new clubs as players or managers this coming season.

GREAT PLAYERS THE GAME COULD LOSE

Billy was one of two well-known stars who have retired from the game and who were also great characters. The second was John Osborne, the West Bromwich Albion goalkeeper, who retired to take over as a coach at The Hawthorns.

John, one of several great goalkeepers produced by Chesterfield, had played 250 League games for Albion before he decided to call it a day.

What many fans do not know is that John, who was very unlucky never to win an international cap as a goalkeeper, was capped by England Schoolboys as a WING-HALF!

Every season famous names find themselves given a free transfer, names that were once head-line news or had won international honours.

Fourth Division Stockport County gave Chris Lawler a free transfer in the summer. Chris won four full England caps, and Liverpool supporters need no reminding he played 406 League games and scored 41 goals while with the Anfield club.

Chris, like some other of the stars mentioned in this feature, has spent the summer playing football in the United States.

Pick up a Stoke City team-sheet of recent years and a fixture in the number six shirt would have been Alan Bloor. He played a total of 380 League games, plus four substitute appearances, for the Stoke club before departing for pastures new.

Mexico 1970, and a star of England's World Cup team was Keith Newton. Then he played for Everton and before that he played 307 League games and scored nine goals for Blackburn Rovers before leaving Everton for Burnley, where he played 209 more League games before going on the list.

One of the unluckiest footballers has been Hugh Curran. While with Wolverhampton Wanderers, Hugh won five Scottish caps and looked set for a long international career.

Then injury struck this fearless striker and he moved to Oxford United, where he finished last season as second top League scorer with 11 goals. Hugh played his last League



Billy Bremner (left) was given a free transfer by Hull. John Osborne (right), West Brom's colourful character, has retired to take over as coach at Albion. Chris Lawler (below) won four England caps.



my soccer scene
**GORDON
HILL**

'DERBY'S 10,000 MILE PRE-SEASON TRIP'



Tommy Docherty shares a joke with Sammy McIlroy and Stewart Houston during a training session at Manchester United. Perhaps Gordon didn't see the joke.

MOST of Derby County's pre-season training this year will be done in America and Spain, not at the Baseball Ground.

After a week or so of the usual vigorous pre-season routine Derby leave for the States and matches against Minnesota Kicks and the New England Tea Men.

My team-mate Charlie George has been playing for the Kicks this summer and Gerry Daly with Tea Men. I suppose these games are part of their loan deal.

From America, Derby fly to Madrid to take part in an international tournament.

As yet we haven't been told the other teams involved. All I do know is we'll be covering over 10,000 miles in ten days.

Some critics might argue that such an exhausting trip is hardly the ideal preparation for pre-season.

On the other hand it's far more interesting than just slogging away day after day, week after week,

TRIP'

running up and down sand-hills and playing matches against local club and youth sides.

More and more of our leading clubs play matches abroad before the start of a new League season in this country.

Generally speaking, players enjoy the change of scenery and break from routine. And games against Continental opposition sharpens reflexes. The competitive spirit in which these matches are played is a much better preparation than the old style Reds v. Blues, or first team v. reserves.

A new venture for some clubs this year, Newcastle United and Ipswich Town to name but two, is to spend a week or so in a special training

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STOCKPORT, ENGLAND

This is No. 1 of a series of illustrations

Pre-season training is essential to survive the long, tough season



camp in Sweden.

This may be a revolutionary idea for English clubs, but the Continentals have been putting it into practice for years ... and not only during the close-season.

Many top foreign sides take their players away for days on end during a term.

I wouldn't enjoy that very much. We are parted from our families too often as it is.

I can't say many players I've spoken to actually enjoy pre-season training, but most managers and coaches now try and make it more interesting by introducing a variety of exercises and routines.

I'll run through the programme Tommy Docherty introduced at Manchester United, which I assume he and Frank Blunstone will use at Derby County.

The first day back at the club was usually taken up with photo sessions and meeting the Press.

The second and third days were spent loosening up muscles, with gentle jogs and stretching exercises. On the fourth day we touched a football for the first time.

Using a ball we dribbled around a carefully-planned obstacle course, climbing over forms and leaping hurdles.

After a few sessions around the obstacles we generally went on to the weights.

Lunch at United was half-an-hour. I usually had a salad as did most of the lads. A few couldn't eat anything because the strain of the tough training course had made them physically sick.

During the afternoon session at The Cliff, The Doc had us running along the touchlines with the ball ... interpassing in groups of three ... dashing from corner-flag to corner-flag.

Sometimes we'd end with a few games of five-a-side, or a full-scale practice match during which Tommy Doc and Tommy Cavanagh would run through new dead-ball routines.

Cross-country running forms part of pre-season training at many clubs, but not at United during The Doc's days as boss. Instead we used a multi-gym ... an apparatus with over 50 different methods of weight training.

Preparing for the new season is a six-day week under The Doc. He orders his players in on a Saturday. It's tough, but it's a chore that just has to be done. You've just got to grit your teeth and get on with it.

Mind you, I shouldn't need much

pre-season training this year.

Apart from playing in all seven games on England B's Far East tour, I took part in BBC TV's Superstars competition during the second week of July.

You may recall Kevin Keegan winning the English Superstars event in 1976, despite that horrific bicycle crash. Kev suffered a physical breakdown shortly afterwards as a result of being involved in too many strenuous activities after a long, demanding season with Liverpool.

I'm aware of this danger so I won't take on too much that is likely to interfere with my football.

The human body is like a machine ... it needs a periodic check-up and overhaul.

One of the best aspects of pre-season training is meeting up with your club-mates again and hearing the latest gossip and jokes.

There are few opportunities for having a laugh when The Doc and Frank Blunstone really get down to the serious work, though.

Nothing very funny happened during pre-season training at Manchester United, but I'll always remember one amusing incident while at Millwall.

After training one morning the players spotted a man asleep in his

car. Well away he was.

One of the lads opened the door, released the handbrake and started to push the car down the road.

We all joined in and shoved the car three streets away, parked it and walked away.

A few moments later the man woke up and looked around in a surprised and startled fashion ... wondering how the heck the car had moved by itself.

Frank Saul told the man what had happened. But he didn't appreciate the joke at all, until Frank took his address with the promise of two stand tickets for Millwall's first home match of the season.

The lads had a whip round to pay for the tickets. I think it worked out at about ten pence each ... a bargain price for a practical joke like that. At least it relieved aching muscles for a while.

Cheers for now. Join me next week when I'll tell you about the Superstars competition.

Gordon Hill

Behind every
successful
manager

Don Howe (left) and Terry Neill (above) took Arsenal to the F.A. Cup Final last season

FIRST CLASS NUMBER TWO



Brian Clough and Peter Taylor first forged their friendship when they were players at Middlesbrough and have developed into one of the top managerial teams in the country

ARSENAL manager Terry Neill pulled off a master stroke last summer when he persuaded Don Howe to return to Highbury as chief coach.

Howe's impact was instant. For his coaching expertise and flair for organisation guided the revived Gunners to the Final of the F.A. Cup, Semi-Final of the League Cup and fifth place in the First Division.

And the last time Howe was at Arsenal — as coach to then manager Bertie Mee — he master-minded Arsenal to the double.

So he has been worth his weight in gold to the North London club — and has proved the value of a good number two at any club.

It's said behind every great man is a woman. And it's equally true that behind every great manager is a coach — and partner.

For further evidence look at Nottingham Forest — who swept triumphantly to the First Division Championship and lifted the League Cup by beating Liverpool in a replay at Old Trafford.

Manager Brian Clough is the man they all talk about. But he is the first to admit none of Forest's fairytale rise to the top would have been possible without right-hand man Peter Taylor.

Together they led Derby County out of the doldrums, to the First Division title and into Europe.

Apart, success eluded them. They won no honours when they went their

separate ways for a short time.

But once they got together again at Forest things began to happen fast for the dynamic duo — the most famous double act in football.

Their friendship was forged when they were players together at Middlesbrough and they took their first steps into management at Hartlepool.

Everything they have done they've done together and their partnership is unique in one respect — Taylor has full licence to act and speak freely when Clough is not around. They clearly regard each other as equal partners.

When the old maestro Bill Shankly set about reviving Liverpool in the early 1960's he had a loyal and talented right-hand man in Bob Paisley.

Replacement

And when Shanks finally quit four years ago Liverpool had no need to look further than Paisley for a replacement.

And look what has happened to them since. European Champions twice, First Division Champions twice and U.E.F.A. Cup winners.

That is further evidence of the difference a great number two can make.

And if you want still more cast your mind back to the six years from 1965, when Manchester City were sweeping



Malcolm Allison (left) and Joe Mercer after Manchester City's 1970 League Cup triumph.

all before them.

In that glorious spell City zoomed out of the Second Division to win the First Division title, the F.A. Cup, League Cup and European Cup-Winners' Cup.

And who was behind these spectacular successes? A management team called Joe Mercer and Malcolm Allison.

Mercer — later to become temporary boss of England — was the wise old head who kept things running smoothly, while the extrovert Allison did all the coaching.

Like all the others they proved a formidable 'team' and Allison was later to prove the value he placed on a great coach.

For when he left City — where Tony Book and Bill Taylor are now doing well — to take charge at Crystal

Palace he quickly appointed Terry Venables to his coaching staff.

Venables, of course, was later to replace Allison as Palace chief and has now emerged as one of the game's outstanding young managers. England boss Ron Greenwood rates him so highly he named him coach to the England Under-21 team — who are managed by Dave Sexton.

And Sexton, you may remember, made such an impact when he was number two to Tommy Docherty at Chelsea some ten years ago that when Docherty left the club all the players begged the board to give the job to Dave.

Ron Atkinson, rising young boss of West Bromwich Albion, places great importance in a good assistant. He has just given the job at The Hawthorns to Colin Addison — former

manager of Hereford and Newport.

It is an ironical appointment. For Addison was strongly in the running for Albion's top job — until his big mate Atkinson pipped him for it.

"Colin has my full blessing to speak for the club when I am not there. He is my assistant — and partner," explains Atkinson.

"I give any guy that works for me a full licence to do his own thing within the general framework of club policy. If I am absent Colin takes over — it's as simple as that.

"Obviously, at the end of the day there can be only one voice that counts — mine. There will obviously be times when we disagree, and that's no bad thing.

"For you sit down, fully discuss things and come to the right decision for all concerned.

"And, like all people who work closely together, there will be times we get sick of the sight of each other. Then we will go our separate ways and have a few drinks somewhere to get it out of the system.

"It's important you never — and I mean NEVER — regard your assistant as a threat. Many people have been afraid to appoint a really top class coach for fear he will eventually get the top job.

"That's cowardice — and nonsense. We all talk about getting quality in depth ON the pitch, so surely it makes sense to do the same OFF it."

Addison will play a full part in any success Albion may have next season. And the same goes for the second in commands throughout the League.

You may not always hear about them. But you can be sure they are doing a marvellous job at their respective clubs.



Ron Atkinson (above) appointed former Hereford and Newport boss Colin Addison (below) as his number two at West Brom.



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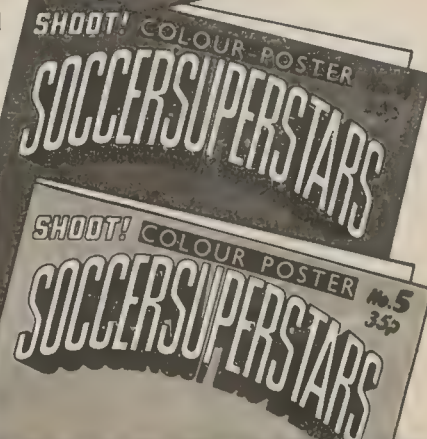


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Cambridge United

What is the record victory, and defeat, of Cambridge since they were elected to the Football League in 1979?

DAVID IMMS,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

● Strangely enough, David, Darlington were involved in both.

Cambridge's best win is a 6-0 victory over them on 18th September, 1971, and their worst defeats were 0-6 — by Aldershot on 13th April, 1974, and by Darlington on 28th September, 1974.

Hot Spurs

How many players, while on Tottenham's books, have been voted "Footballer of the Year" in England?

RICHARD ADAMS,
BRIDGEND

● Only two, since the annual award started at the end of the 1947-48 season, Richard — though one of them has the rare distinction of earning that title twice.

These very hot Hotspurs have been Danny Blanchflower (1957-58 and 1960-61), and Pat Jennings (1972-73).

Albert the first

When Forest's Viv Anderson played against Liverpool in the League Cup Final last season, was he the first coloured player to play in a major Wembley Final?

JASON HILL,
JERSEY

● Not by a long way, Jason. What about the 1965 F.A. Cup Final, when Albert Johanneson — whose colour in his native South Africa didn't allow his soccer skills to be fully recognised — who played on the left wing in the Leeds' side which went down 2-1 to Liverpool.

High-Flying Swans

Is it true that Swansea beat Liverpool in the F.A. Cup Quarter-Finals in 1962?

COLIN TAY,
ABERDARE

● Well, not then, Colin — but Swansea certainly did do just that thing a couple of years later! But then they went down 1-2 in the Semi-Final — so it was Preston instead who went on to Wembley to meet West Ham.

Leeds v Millwall

I believe Leeds and Millwall met in Division Two in the 1940's. Could you tell me the scores?

E. R. SMITH,
EAST DULWICH

● Leeds were relegated to the Second Division at the end of the first post-War League season of 1946-47, and Millwall to the Third at the end of 1947-48.

So the latter was the only season in the 1940's in which they met.

Then Leeds won 2-1 at Elland Road, while it was all-square at 1-1 back at The Den.

Two 'Ton' City

There aren't too many goals around in the First Division nowadays, so I'm wondering if any team has ever both scored and conceded 100 in a single season?

KAREN DEAVEY,
MANCHESTER

● Yes, Karen, your own local Manchester City has!

In 1957-58, when they finished fifth in the table, City scored 104 goals — but they let in another 100 at the other end.

For instance, they beat West Bromwich 4-1 at home, but lost 2-9 away, and beat Leicester 4-3 at home, but lost 4-8 away.

And that was how it went on all through the season. In their 42 First Division games, City failed to score in only one. And only four times, in those same 42 games, did they succeed in preventing their opponents scoring.

One goal Jordan

Is it true Joe Jordan only scored one goal when he played for Morton?

ALAN McNAUGHTON,
EDINBURGH

● Quite true, Alan — though, to be fair to big Joe, he only played seven full Scottish League games (plus three more as sub) before Leeds spotted his potential and snapped him up as a £15,000 youngster in October, 1970.

SHORT PASSES

● Alan Sealey scored both goals in West Ham's 2-0 defeat of Munich 1860 in the 1965 Cup-Winners' Cup Final.

(ANDREW ALEXANDROU, Essex)

● Aston Villa's very first Football League game was a 1-1 draw on Wolves' ground on 8th September, 1888.

(LIAM KANE, Eire)

● York City's best F.A. Cup season was in reaching the Semi-Final in 1954-55.

(JAIN COURT, York)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

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IT'S taken a long time, but Jimmy Calderwood, the 23-year-old Birmingham City right-back, has finally established himself as a first team regular.

"It's only come about during the last two seasons," says the Scottish Under-23 international player, who made his debut as a midfielder at Stoke as far back as November, 1972.

"I prefer a midfield role, but I don't mind where I play as long as I am in the team.

"Last term was the real breakthrough. I missed five matches and I would have played in two of those if I'd been fit. Before that it was a case of chopping and changing. I was standing in for injured players and as soon as they returned to fitness; they were put back. It didn't seem to matter how well I played. I was always left out.

"I was axed on the eve of the F.A. Cup Semi-Final against Fulham in the 1974/75 season. Freddie Goodwin was the man-

ager at the time. I was so upset that I slapped in a transfer request, but nothing came from it."

Jimmy, born in Glasgow and a product of the club's youth scheme, made around 27 appearances the season before last and began the 1977/78 campaign as the Blues' first choice right-back. But after four games the axe fell again.

"We lost our first four games and team-boss Willie Bell decided on a shake up. It was disheartening. I was always the scapegoat. Mind you, it was happening to other players at St. Andrews as well.

"Malcolm Page was injured on the morning of our match at Villa Park. I was lucky enough to regain my place and I've kept it ever since."

Jimmy has been described as a classy overlapping full-back, extremely talented, but lacking in consistency.

"Yes, that's what Sir Alf Ramsey always said. It wasn't so much consistency — more a tendency to fall asleep during the game. It was a lack of concentration



Jimmy Calderwood (left) rates his full-back partner Kevin Dillon (above) very highly.

son of Nottingham Forest and he was shut out completely. I enjoyed that game at St. Andrews. With a player like that, then you've got to have cover. We had young Kevin Dillon playing that day and when John got past me, he had to pass Kevin more or less straightaway.

"Even for the best of wingers that's hard to do. He couldn't really take us on. Yet I saw Robertson in action against Aston Villa and he tormented the life out of Johnny Gidman, simply because Gidman had no cover. It's all about working for each other. In a one against one situation the winger will always skin the full-back.

"Kevin performed well for me. He's a good player, very deceptive and quick off the mark.

"Birmingham had some great results last season. We won at Liverpool, Manchester United and Aston Villa. Not many teams win at those places in the same season, and it's always nice to win at Villa Park.

"One of the biggest disappointments last season was losing to Derby in the F.A. Cup Fourth Round.

"Support for City was fantastic for the match. We had about 12,000 fans at the Baseball

'BIRMINGHAM EXPECT TO WIN EVERY GAME'

declares full-back
Jimmy Calderwood

really and you can't afford to be like that, can you?

"I think it's the attitude I gave to people. I never noticed it myself. When they first told me I didn't believe it, but every manager I've played under has said the same thing, so they can't all be wrong. I'm working hard on that one.

"Sir Alf used to keep on at me about it. I'd no problems on the playing side. It was just that I lacked concentration and was apt to do something silly.

"I always thought my weakness was in defending, surprisingly enough, with me being a full-back, but the managers didn't seem to think so. I've always been strong in attack.

"Even so, there's only ever been one time when I was really roasted and that was against Willie Johnston when we played West Brom last term. For the first 15 minutes he ran rings round me. I was completely mesmerised. Apart from that it's not been too bad. You get a lot of help from the other lads and you need it when you're playing against wingers of that class.

"I played against John Robert-

Ground. Unfortunately, we never really put our game together. I felt sorry for all those spectators who had travelled with us.

"The St. Andrews crowd have been unkind to some players in the past, but I must admit they've always been good to me."

Jimmy has served under four managers at Birmingham: Freddie Goodwin, Willie Bell, Sir Alf Ramsey and now Jim Smith.

"They've all been kind to me," he says, "but Jim Smith really gets involved.

"He's great at motivating. You read about Bill Shankly and people like that building teams up before they take the field and the players feeling marvellous. Well, we've never had our confidence boosted as much as the boss is doing now.

"Since Jim Smith took over the lads have gone out expecting to win every game.

"Before he came we travelled away often hoping to snatch a draw. We always seemed to be up against it.

"Mr. Smith is straight and honest. You know where you stand with him. He's the inspiration behind the team and runs the whole show."

There'll be some new faces at St Andrews next term as Jim Smith rings the changes, but the right-back spot must surely go to Jimmy Calderwood, a player to watch out for, a player with a future.





Football Crazy, the football shaped crunchy snack with its own special club. Join and you get a Club badge, a transfer of your favourite team, mail order sheet, plus a regular Club newspaper. All free. Look for details on the pack.

SMITHS FOOTBALL CRAZY.

FOCUS ON BILLY PIRIE Dundee

FULL NAME: William James Pirie
BIRTHPLACE: Aberdeen
BIRTHDATE: 2nd April, 1969
HEIGHT: 5ft 10ins
WEIGHT: 11st 8lb
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Arbroath
MARRIED: Yes to Lynda
CHILDREN: Two, Nicola and Stephen
CAR: Escort
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Denis Law
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Scotland
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: George Anderson of Morton
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: My first appearance as a professional
BIGGEST THRILL: Winning the Players' Player of the Year award
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not gaining promotion last season
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Australia
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Golf and darts
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Travelling to training
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Most sports programmes and The Muppet Show
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Rod Stewart and Donna Summer
FAVOURITE ACTOR: Clint Eastwood
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Billy Williamson and Paddy Kelly
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Travelling by coach
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None yet
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be successful in life
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: Success with Dundee, of course
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? Don't know
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Film star Rachel Welch

William James Pirie



SHOOT!

SHOOT ON SIGHT!

That's one of the lessons we on SHOOT maintain should be learnt from the recent World Cup competition.

THE new season is just a few weeks away... all the players are back in pre-season training... after the briefest of close-seasons, we're slowly but surely getting into action again.

But what sort of season will 1978/79 be? Will it be an improvement on last term, one of the best campaigns for years?

In 1977/78, Nottingham Forest blazed their way to the title with their own brand of all-out attacking football; their reward for this bold approach was the League Cup, Championship and countless new admirers.

Ipswich Town showed the world all the best qualities of the Football League when beating Arsenal in the F.A. Cup Final far more convincingly than the 1-0 scoreline suggests. Then, the icing on the cake, Liverpool retained their European crown.

On the debit side, violence was still much in evidence, and the number of players sent-off too high for comfort.

In Scotland, Rangers proved superior to everyone and completed The Treble again. Credit, though, to Aberdeen, the only team to challenge the Light Blues' domination.

Overall, 1977/78 was a good season, with much to admire. Since then, we've had the World Cup Finals and soccer's premier competition invariably sets new trends. The problem is — there were few new ideas seen in Argentina for coaches and managers to copy.

Winners Argentina are certainly not a great side when compared with past winners, having just one truly world-class player: Mario Kempes, of course. Holland added a rougher edge to their soccer; Brazil's skill was mostly just below the surface of their "European" style approach; West Germany's form was so bad that for once we learned nothing from them.

Perhaps the outstanding feature of the World Cup was the quality of some of the goals — the long-



Teofilo Cubillas (left) scored two long-range goals for Peru against Scotland. Italy's Benetti (right) hammers home v. Hungary.



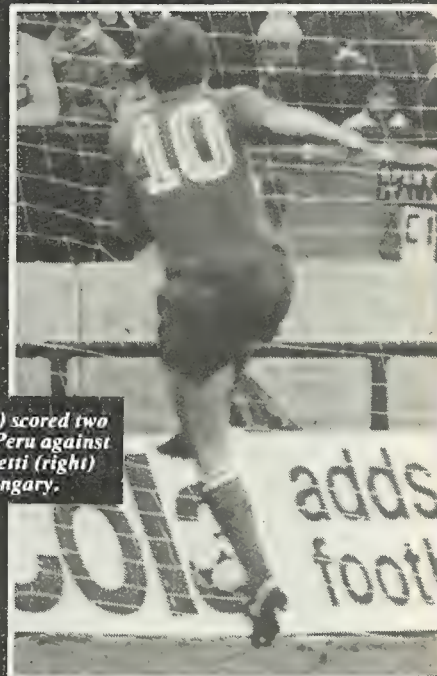
Dino Zoff of Italy cannot reach this tremendous shot from Brazil's Nelinho (out of picture). The final score was 2-1 to Brazil.

range shots and free-kicks, in particular. In a competition that was too often light on skill, occasionally we saw, completely out of the blue, the most spectacular of goals.

Yet, at home, such sights are rare. Our shooting, from both close-range and long-range, has let our teams down so often, at club and international level. And how often do you see a British player score from a "rocket" free-kick... a Bonhof-type shot that wins simply because of its sheer power?

The answer is very seldom; yet to our cost, our sides have been on the receiving end too many times than they'd care to mention. A high percentage of goals are scored from set-piece movements — yet not a great deal are scored by British players, compared with the Continentals.

Why can the Continentals manage tricks we can only marvel





How many of our players are prepared to dedicate themselves as Bonhof and Platini do? Perhaps some feel it just isn't worth the bother... that the British game is more about stamina and staying-power than set-piece movements.

Yet surely, if a player can score just three goals a season as a result of specialised training and practice, his time has been well-spent. Three goals can mean three points... and three points can be the difference between success and failure.

And what about our long-range shooting? Of course we see goals from 30 yards in Britain, yet it's still a fact, as Ron Greenwood con-

cedes, that "all the last eight teams in the World Cup Finals were technically better than us."

If these Continental qualities could be added to the traditional strengths of the British game, maybe more of our clubs and international sides would achieve success.

Greenwood continues: "The Continentals can run with the ball at speed. Since Bobby Charlton, we've had no player who can do this."

The Dutch scored some unforgettable goals from way outside the penalty-area. Johnny Rep's "killer" goal against Scotland will haunt the Tartan Army forever... yet what a superb goal it was! Against Italy, later on, Brandts and Haan thumped home two goals that had Dino Zoff groping at thin air.

Perhaps it's because our players are inhibited that they rarely have a crack from 30 yards. Maybe our coaches don't give enough encouragement. The recent "brains trust" at Bisham Abbey, where many top managers and coaches met, discussed this problem at length, so we could be seeing more "dynamite" outside the box next season.

The European Championship starts in just a few weeks and it would be a boost to see the Home nations displaying the best of the Continental skills. It could be significant that Kevin Keegan scored against Brazil for England from a free-kick... and he's been in West Germany for a year.

Bad finishing has let our international sides down too often. If England had scored a few more goals (which they should have done from the chances created) they, not Italy, would have been in Argentina. Similarly, if Scotland's forwards had been more accurate, they would not have suffered the disaster of a home defeat by England. Again, the Scots had the chances.

Let's hope that 1978/79 sees a new era in British soccer with our sides scoring, not conceding, the sort of out-of-the-blue goals the Continentals score so well.



at? Is there something lacking in our players? Is the ability to "bend" a ball a technique only foreigners can master?

The answer to the last question is most definitely "no". It is probably true to say the British player cannot be expected to display South American-type skills throughout a game because the two styles of play are completely different. Also, our players have to play on surfaces that would at times make foreigners weep.

The key to the Continentals' success is... practice. There is no secret formula, no inborn talent, just hard work. West Germany's Rainer Bonhof stays behind for an hour after every training session to practise free-kicks. France's Michel Platini does the same. Using dummies to form a "wall" — he attempts to bend the ball round this "wall" for hours each week and he has been rewarded for his

patience with several vital — and spectacular — goals.

The Brazilians have a special trainer for free-kicks. His job is to supervise set-piece movements with the players, not just specialist forwards. This is why a player like Nelinho, a full-back, can score marvellous goals like his thunderbolt from the right against Italy in the third-place play-off.

England manager Ron Greenwood says: "Foreign clubs don't spend as much time rehearsing set-piece movements as our clubs, unless they have a specialist like Bonhof or Cubillas. That's because they believe, as I do, that football is about movement, not set-pieces."

If our clubs DO spend so much time on free-kicks, then why don't we do better? And how much time is actually spent? What is "a lot of time"? Because of the demands of British soccer, especially in the First Division, clubs' training schedules are reduced by the two-games-per-week schedule that always awaits them.

Manchester United captain Martin Buchan, one of soccer's thinkers, sighs: "When I look back on my career, I wish I'd spent more time mastering the basic skills. I'm not sure whether I'm to blame or my coaches, but I feel I could have been an even better player with more practice."

The Austrian defensive "wall" is beaten in the game against Holland. With seconds remaining of last term's European Cup Semi-Final first-leg Ray Clemence was beaten by a Bonhof free-kick to give Borussia a slender 2-1 lead.



THE SLEEPY city of Cambridge has come bursting to life during the summer. And it's the prospect of seeing some of football's biggest names there that has disturbed the normally tranquil atmosphere.

The local citizens have been aroused by Cambridge's romantic climb into the Second Division. A phenomenal achievement, that — for they have been a Football League club for only eight years.

Cambridge own the smallest ground in the League, with a capacity of only 12,000. In the past they have considered themselves lucky if they had it nearly half full.

But all that will change next term, if the pre-season activity is anything to go by. For there has been a fantastic response to the promotion — their second in succession — that season ticket sales have increased six-fold!

Cambridge have banked £30,000 from the sale of seasons — a stunning jump from their previous highest figure, which was £5,000.

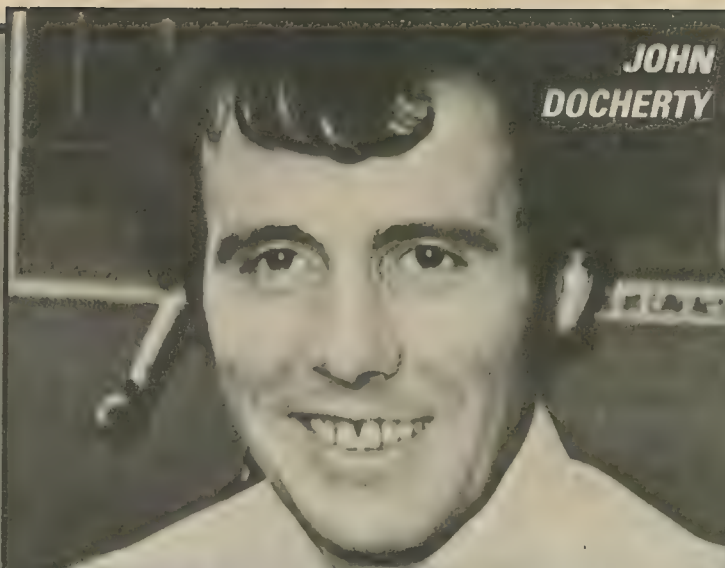
Cambridge will also increase their revenue by installing 500 new seats in front of the main stand and have carried out a lot of ground improvements in readiness for their new challenge.

"Interest around the place is incredible," bubbled manager John Docherty excitedly.

"The crowd realise some of the names that will be coming to the Abbey Stadium next season and they want to make sure of being there to see them.

"Just think of it — clubs like Newcastle, West Ham, Leicester, Sunderland. Real big names in the business coming to play Cambridge.

"When I first saw the fixture list it



JOHN DOCHERTY

BIG CLUBS DON'T FRIGHTEN 'LITTLE' CAMBRIDGE

took some time to sink in. Then I thought 'it's great to be in among this lot, isn't it'.

"We are looking forward to playing these sides — and we are not afraid of facing them.

"Don't forget Brighton needed three tough games to knock us out of the League Cup last season — and they went on to finish fourth in the

Second Division and miss promotion only on goal difference.

"If we can reproduce the form we showed in those games we won't have too much to worry about."

Docherty, who took over as team boss when Ron Atkinson left to become manager of West Bromwich Albion, has accepted a new two-year contract.

And the first thing he did after agreeing to it was to appoint Paddy Sowden as his assistant. Paddy previously did the scouting under Atkinson.

Docherty pulled off a major achievement when he persuaded ALL last season's squad to sign new contracts with the club.

That includes Alan Biley, Steve Fallon and Steve Spriggs — three of the most wanted young men in the game.

They are only 21 — and all have signed four-year contracts with the club.

Biley has broken the club's scoring record for the past two seasons, Fallon is regarded as the best centre-half in the lower Divisions and Spriggs is the side's midfield dynamo.

Docherty is pleased to have tied things up with these valuable assets so early. But interest in them is growing. So is the money being dangled — which, in the past, was totally unacceptable.

And Cambridge realise if the kids do well in the Second Division they are likely to get an offer they just cannot refuse.

Docherty is in charge of one of the youngest squads in the country. Nine of them are under 22, so Cambridge clearly have a sound base to build on.

They are likely to set one record next season — facing crowds on their travels bigger than they can accommodate on their own ground.

That does not worry the eager new boys — whose club have now gained promotion three times in their eight years in the League.

They may meet more fans away. But they are confident they will soon feel at home in the Second Division!

"PLEASED and very proud" — that's how Dave Hatton felt after his appointment as the new player-manager of Third Division Bury.

"It's something I've always wanted to do, but I didn't expect it so early," said the 34-year-old Farnworth born professional. "It's a golden opportunity for me and I just hope I can be a success at it.

"It all happened when Bob Stokoe suddenly left for Blackpool at the end of last term. The senior players: Andy Rowlands, John Forrest, Billy Tucker and myself had a meeting with the chairman.

"We just had a chat to see where the club was heading. He didn't want a big name; he wanted somebody up-and-coming, preferably a person without managerial experience.

"I was mentioned and I think he had a word with some of the lads, then I received a phone call the same night saying the job was mine.

"It will be a good start for me being on the park with the lads. How long I'll continue to play I really don't know, but I intend to carry on just as long as my legs will allow."

Hatton started his career with Bolton in season 1960/61 and made his debut the same year in a League Cup-tie at Sunderland. "We lost 1-0," he says, "and it was Brian Clough who scored the winning goal."

In 1969 Dave moved to Blackpool and in his first season helped the Bloomfield Road club to win promotion to the First Division.

It was a joy that was short-lived, for the following term Blackpool

'MORE GOALS FOR THE FANS' SAKE'

That's the vow of Dave Hatton, new player-manager at Bury.



tumbled straight back down.

In 1976 he arrived on the Gigg Lane scene and, with his vast experience, is considered a natural.

"Obviously I've learned a few things during my time in football and I hope I can pass this knowledge on to the players," he said. "I've played under several managers picking up little bits from each one and threading them together with ideas of my own.

"I've particularly admired the qualities of Harry Potts and Bob Stokoe."

How is Hatton going to tackle the job of steering Bury into the Second Division? "I've already started by appointing former Scottish international Stuart Imlach as my first team coach," says Dave.

"I was quite impressed when I was under him at Blackpool, even though it was only for a short time. We both have the same basic ideas on the game and I think we can work well together."

How is Dave going to solve the player relationship problem now he's the boss?

"It's going to be a case of drawing my own dividing line. I still want to be friends with everybody, obviously, but if I go too far, then they might take advantage.

"It's all part of the challenge. I'm finding things out every day. When you're a player you think, 'Oh, if it were me I'd go and buy such and such a player,' but when you're the manager you realise it's not as simple as that.

"I've got some money to spend on new players — not a vast amount as First and Second Division clubs go. We've got to

search around and at the moment that's what we're doing.

"There is a nice blend of youth and experience at Gigg Lane. We've a good goalkeeper in John Forrest, the best in the Division. We've two full-backs, Keenan and Kennedy, who both have pace, and there's Billy Tucker and myself in the central-defensive positions.

"In midfield there's Brian Stanton with all the qualities to make it. On the other side we've got Peter Farrell; he's still got a lot to learn, but he'll be a good player.

"We'll be out to attack with as many men up-front as we can, breaking from a 4-3-3 to a 4-2-4. I think an attacking policy is essential because over the years we haven't given the crowd much to shout about. They're the ones who pay our wages. They come to be entertained and they want to see the ball in the box more often with someone on the end of it to score goals, and this is what we intend to do.

"Our average attendance at Gigg Lane is 4,700, but this hardly pays its way. If we can pull in 6,000, then we'll be highly delighted.

"Last term Bury drew 19 games and it was our home form which let us down. We only won seven out of 23 and we drew 13 times. We've got to turn these draws into wins.

"We only lost three away from home and had an away record comparable with the promoted teams. If we can keep that up and do something about our home form, then we must be in with a great shout."

Danny with Tom Forsyth (left) and Bruce Rioch, two members of the Scotland World Cup squad.



'Scotland's Shadow Squad should have played at Hampden'

Right...
Rangers'
Bobby Russell.

THE WORLD Cup is a memory now, for some good, for Scotland mostly bad. We have found new heroes, been disappointed in old ones. Whatever way we look at it, there is no way we can change the course of the 1978 World Cup now.

Everyone, from F.I.F.A. president Joao Havelange down to the youngsters who have hardly learned how to kick a ball have had their say on what went wrong. And why not? For that is the very essence of football.

Well, it is not my place to criticise my fellow Scotland players or officials and I have already had my say in SHOOT about Argentina and all that.

But there is one last suggestion I think might have been profitable had it been employed by Ally MacLeod before the Finals.

I think it was wrong for the full squad to contest the British Championship just before their departure for South America. It might have been an idea to get the boys away from it all and instead allow players outside the 22 to face England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

That would have taken the



pressure off Bruce Rioch and the boys and at the same time have given invaluable international experience to the players on the fringe.

I may have called any such team a shadow squad, but if you exclude the World Cup players, just look at the kind of side Scotland could have fielded for the three Hampden games.

In goal for example, we could have the under-rated Jim Stewart, recently transferred from Kilmarnock to Middlesbrough, who manager John Neal preferred to the Scotland number one choice Alan

Rough.

Big Jim is already international material, having made the trip with the Scotland squad to West Germany for the 1974 World Cup Finals.

Then there is Celtic's own Roy Aitken and Roddie MacDonald, Bobby Russell, Gordon Smith and Davie Cooper of Rangers, Ian Wallace of Coventry, Andy Gray of Aston Villa, Willie Young of Arsenal, Brian Whittaker of Partick Thistle, Alan Hansen of Liverpool... the list is almost endless.

The more you sit down and think about it, the more you realise no matter what might be the current opinion of the world on the Scottish international team, individually at least our players are still football's most wanted men.

Meanwhile, let's forget the World Cup and get back to club level.

Well, generally it's all quiet on the Western front at the moment with everyone getting down to pre-season work, sweating off the pounds that come so easily with relaxing on a Spanish beach.

We did get one flush of excitement though when the draws for the three European competitions

were made in Zurich. For the first time since the early Sixties Celts weren't involved, but the draw sure dealt Scotland a sizzler.

John Greig's first taste of European competition as a manager will be in Turin taking on Juventus, alias the Italian World Cup team!

That's just about as fiery a debut as you could imagine and Rangers, who many people thought could do particularly well in Europe next season, will really be up against it.

I remember the famous Italian club knocked both Manchester clubs out of the U.E.F.A. Cup in successive rounds a couple of seasons back and then last season they were beaten in the Semi-Finals of the European Cup itself by Bruges, who of course fell to Liverpool in the Final.

And talking of Liverpool, I wouldn't mind seeing their clash with Nottingham Forest in the European Cup. If nothing else, both clubs will save a fortune in travelling expenses.

I have only one word to say about Marek Dimitrov of Bulgaria who face Aberdeen in the Cup-Winners' Cup. Who?

At least we have all heard of Standard Liege of Belgium who take on Dundee United in the U.E.F.A. Cup and IFK Norrkoeping of Sweden who will face Hibs in the same competition.

Naturally I wish all four Scottish clubs the best of British in all the tourneys... but I must confess to a little bit of jealousy.

Mark my words, the Celts will be back there where they belong this time next year.

See you in two weeks...



Danny McGrain

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN TALK BY RANGERS' MANAGER JOHN GREIG

Celtic's Alfie Conn has been dogged by injuries since his move from Spurs.



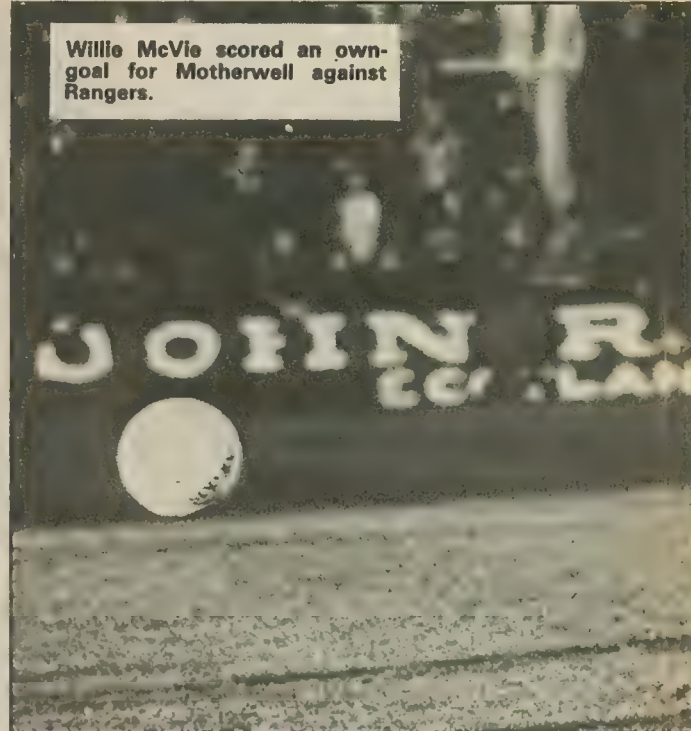
SCOTTISH soccer fans appear to be fiercely critical at the moment after the dismal disappointment of their international side in Argentina. That mood could well reflect on next season's gates.

However, one thing is certain. The fans who do turn up will want to be entertained. Argentina's entrancing Mario Kempes and Leopoldo Luque are being talked about as players of the highest calibre and the fans are not prepared to accept second best in the new term.

Obviously not every player possesses the rare talents of the South American double-act, but the crowds will yell for effort. It's going to be a tough season for everyone, but for some players it will be even more crucial.

These are the players who face their make-or-break season. The crunch has arrived and they must answer questions that hover over them. They must shoot down the doubters... they must deliver the goods.

Willie McVie scored an own-goal for Motherwell against Rangers.



FACING THEIR MAKE-OR-BREAK SEASON

ALFIE CONN, of Celtic, is at the forefront of players who must come good. The Parkhead fans are still divided over his worth to the team. Some see him as a luxury they cannot afford. Others as a player of genuine class, a man every team should want.

The flamboyant former Rangers and Spurs attacker has been plagued by a knee injury since his £65,000 transfer from White Hart Lane 17 months ago.

He played only 19 first team games last term. In fact, in the final 16 games of the programme he made only ONE appearance... and that was as a substitute.

Conn is determined to have a real go when the big kick-off comes around. He has seen three doctors about his knee trouble and all of them have warned him of the consequences of continuing to play the game he loves so much.

He has even visited a Chinese acupuncture specialist in Harley Street in an effort to clear up the trouble. He has had treatment and now he is clearly hoping a fully fit, razor sharp Alfie Conn can help Celtic get over their season of torment when so very little went right for them or him.

No one doubts the ability of the exciting Conn. Those electrifying runs at defenders, those serpentine swerves that baffle oppo-

nents, those stop-start, now-you-see-me-now-you-don't qualities are a refreshing sight in a game that has always threatened to have more robots than a Star Wars movie.

This is the season of truth for Conn. He says simply: "I'll give it everything I have. I won't be giving in easily, you can be sure of that."

DEREK PARLANE, a former team-mate of Conn at Rangers, is at the same crossroads of his career. He must come up with the goods this season... and he knows it.

He was on the transfer list last season, but apart from a £120,000 bid from Birmingham which was turned down and described as "peanuts" by Willie Waddell, there was very little interest in the former international star.

Parlane sat out most of the season on the substitutes' bench after Rangers, the treble winners, had paid out £65,000 to Kilmarnock for Gordon Smith. The new boy teamed up well with Derek Johnstone in the middle of the Ibrox attack and Parlane became a forgotten man.

He said at the time: "Being out of the first team is no good for me at this stage in my career. I'll have to move elsewhere if something doesn't happen."

Now Parlane, after talks with his new manager John Greig, has been taken off the transfer list and is prepared to start afresh in his battle to gain a top team spot.

If Johnstone stays it will obviously make Parlane's task all the harder. It's difficult to see Rangers being able to play Johnstone, Smith AND Parlane in attack. Again the situation may be resolved if Johnstone moved to centre-half, where he says he is happiest, but which club could afford such a switch after Johnstone had proved his goal-snatching ability last season with 41 goals?

It looks as though Parlane will have to do it on his own. It has been quite a while since the song "Parlane Is The King Of Ibrox Park" has been heard around the famous Glasgow ground. If it is going to be heard again it will only be through sheer dedication and utmost application from the powerfully-built youngster who is far too good to slip out of the big time.

WILLIE McVIE, Motherwell's rugged centre-back, is facing a season in which he must prove to man-

ager Roger Hynd he is the man for the first team spot while staying out of trouble with referees.

Unfortunately for the former Clyde stalwart, controversy has followed him around on the park and last term could hardly be described as one of his happiest as he sat out some games because of injury and S.F.A. suspension.

McVie appeared to take on a new lease of life when Hynd first joined the club. They went six games without conceding a goal until they met Rangers and were thrashed 5-3 with the most remarkable goal of the eight coming from McVie... and it was an own-goal!

He was facing his own 'keeper Stewart Rennie about ten yards out when a low cross swept over from the right. McVie caught it first time and sent a mighty, unstoppable, thundering shot high into his own net with Rennie totally helpless.

Four nights later McVie's misery was complete as his side dropped out of the Scottish Cup with little Queen's Park winning 3-1 at Fir Park. Hynd may not have been



impressed by his side that night, but he must have taken a special note of the Hampden number five Allan Mackin ... he is now a Motherwell player!

Mackin will be fighting McVie all the way for the first team place and it should be an intriguing battle. McVie has never been known to shirk a challenge. He will not turn his back on this one, either.

But it is one he must win. If he loses he could very well slip out of the Premier Division ...

ALLY SCOTT, the former Queen's Park, Rangers and Hibs leader, was once tipped as a future international star shortly after making the breakthrough at Ibrox, but things went drastically and disastrously wrong after that.

He dropped into the shadows at Ibrox and was soon on his way to Easter Road along with Graham Fyfe. Iain Munro, now with St. Mirren, came to Rangers in exchange.

There seemed no doubt Hibs manager Eddie Turnbull thought



One of the hardest-tacklers in the Premier next term will be Hearts' Drew Busby.

he had pulled off a masterstroke. On form, Scott and Fyfe could prove extremely difficult. Off form, the players seemed to blend into the background.

Fyfe went to Dumbarton and then Scott was freed at the end of last term. There was no immediate rush for his signature, but Morton boss Benny Rooney, striving to strengthen his team for the rigours that lay ahead in the Premier, took the big striker to Cappielow.

It will almost certainly be Scott's last chance to show he has got what it takes. It won't be easy and he realises that, but if he combines well with another former Old Firm player Andy Ritchie, ex-Celtic, then Morton could hand out a few shocks.

DREW BUSBY, of Hearts, is one of the hardest-tackling players in Scottish soccer and it was this dynamo who helped the Edin-



Derek Johnstone, Gordon Smith and Derek Parlane (above) could be fighting for two positions at Ibrox. Left ... Former Hibs star Ally Scott will be playing for Morton next season.



burgh men back into the Top Ten in one season after the despair of relegation.

But will veteran Drew be able to sustain that pace and retain that form among the elite? Or will the pressure be too much for the man who will again play a key role?

Like Conn, Parlane, McVie and Scott, Busby must provide the answer on the field in front of thousands. Past reputations go for nothing when the crunch arrives.

Will they sink? Or will they swim? We will have to wait for that answer ...

STAMP QUIZ?

DO YOU KNOW:

1. What country puts "C.C.C.P." on its stamps
2. Does ICELAND issue stamps?
3. Name any country which has issued TRIANGULAR stamps?
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IN NEXT WEEK'S SHOOT

Colour: Steve Daley (Wolves) + **Match action** from Arsenal and Chelsea + **Players off duty:** Graeme Souness (Liverpool) and Paul Futcher (Man. City) + **Focus on** Keith Bertschin (Birmingham) + David Langan (Derby) + Brian Greenhoff (Man. Utd) against Norwich City.

Features: Everton, gearing itself for its assault on the honours next season + All the Football League Fixtures for 1978/79 + 'Can Forest Match or Even Surpass Their Achievements of Last Term?' — answered by four players with rival clubs + Who won what last season in the European Leagues + Exclusive interviews with Spurs' Argentinian signings, Ardiles and Villa.

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TAKE A BREAK—IT'S quiz time

1. Tottenham recently paid out around £1 million for three players. Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa were two... who was the other one?

2. Know the change the Football Association made to a clause in the Offside Law?

3. Willie Johnston was banned for life by Scotland from playing for the international side. Does the suspension apply to West Brom's U.E.F.A. Cup assault next season?

4. The Scottish F.A. recently handed life suspensions to two other World Cup players... can you name them?

5. Arsenal paid Plymouth Argyle around £60,000 for Paul Barron. Which recognised position does he play in?

6. Chris Turner was another player on the move recently when he signed for Leicester City or Luton Town for an estimated £60,000 from Peterborough United?

7. True or false? Scottish First Division club St. Johnstone play their home games at Muirton Park.

8. Do you know the Christian names of the following players? (a) ----- Ryan (Derby County), (b) ----- Cummins (Middlesbrough), and (c) ----- O'Neill (Nottingham Forest).

9. Study the photograph (below) taken during the 1976 British Championship game between England and Northern Ireland, and try to answer the following questions.

(a) Can you name the Northern Ireland player on the right, (b) the referee, (c) what was the final result and (d) where was the game played?

10. Morton were promoted from the Scottish First Division last season as Champions. Which other club joined them?

11. If the 1976-77 Welsh Cup winners met the 1926-27 F.A. Cup holders in a friendly... which two clubs would be in opposition?

12. Everton have had seven managers since the last War. Theo Kelly, Cliff Britton, Ian Buchan, John Carey, Harry Catterick and Gordon Lee are six... can you name the other one?

13. F.A. Cup holders Ipswich Town meet Alkmaar, Barcelona or Inter-Milan in the First Round of the European Cup-Winners' Cup?

14. Rangers beat Hearts 3-1 to win the 1975-76 Scottish Cup. Derek Johnstone scored twice for the Ibrox Park club... did Alex Macdonald, Sandy Jardine or Tom Forsyth also score?

15. Before joining Liverpool in 1974, Terry McDermott played for which two other League clubs?

ANSWERS

1. John Lacey from Fulham. 2. A player cannot now be outside team-mate, which has been deflected by a member of the opposing side. 3. No. 4. Lou Macari and Don Masson. 5. Goal-keeper. 6. Luton Town. 7. True. 8. (a) Gerry, (b) Stan, (c) Martin. 9. (a) Sammy Nelson, (b) Clive Thomas, (c) 4-0 to England, (d) Wembley. 10. Hearts. 11. Shrewsbury v. Cardiff. 12. Billy Bingham. 13. Alkmaar. 14. Alex Macdonald. 15. Bury and Newcastle.



GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) Chelsea. (7) Cat. (10) Exit. (11) Do. (13) No. (15) Is. (16) Lost. (18) West Germany. (20) Inane. (21) Nest. (23) We. (25) Aver. (27) Spy. (28) Or. (29) Yes. (30) Newport. (32) Taylor. (34) Eye. (36) Shoe. (31) Fletcher. (33) Ore. (34) To. (36) Four. (37) Rows.

DOWN:— (2) He. (3) Exists. (4) List. (5) St. (6) Adorn. (8) An. (9) Tony. (12) Osman. (14) Swindon. (16) Leicester. (17) Tan. (19) Newport. (22) Taylor. (24) Eye. (26) Veer. (27) She. (30) Show. (32) Go. (35) Of. Jumbled Name: COLIN SUGGETT.

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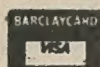
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'NOW IS THE TIME FOR US TO WIN SOMETHING'

MIDDLESBROUGH CAPTAIN STUART BOAM FACES UP TO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF LEADING THE NORTH-EAST'S SOLE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE FIRST DIVISION

THE last bastion of First Division football in the North-East. That is Middlesbrough in season 1978-79, and skipper Stuart Boam insists: "Now is the time for us to start winning something. And it has to be in the coming season."

The six foot central-defender whose cool command and demanding leadership has played a major role in taking Middlesbrough to the First Division and keeping them there, asserts: "This is when we put Middlesbrough on the map."

With Newcastle United and Sunderland now anchored in the Second Division, it is doubtful if there has ever been such a glorious chance for Middlesbrough to storm to triumph and Boam agrees: "I don't think that it has happened before... that we've been up there in the First while the two clubs who have dominated football in the North-East are bracketed in the Second."

"We'll miss the local 'derbies' — there is nothing in this world like the atmosphere of a clash between rival North-East clubs — but now we are THE club. It is a chance that we must take."

"Let's be honest about it. Newcastle have a history studded with

Championships, F.A. Cup wins and campaigns in Europe; Sunderland have had almost as much fame and success. By comparison, we've done nothing."

"We should have started the job last season by winning the F.A. Cup. A lot of people fancied us as 'dark horses' and the players started to become convinced as well. We scored three goals to beat Coventry; three more to beat Everton; two to beat Bolton."

"Then we went out to a not-very-good Second Division side, Orient, and the chance was lost."

Middlesbrough played under new manager John Neal last season and finished just below the halfway mark. "We came back from a poor start as John introduced his own ideas which improved our football and stepped up our goalscoring, especially in the Cup," says Stuart.

"With due respect to Wrexham — John's previous club — it is a big step to go from Third to First Divisions and there had to be an initial period of John settling in and working out what he wanted to do... and which players were best equipped to carry out his plans."

"Under Jack Charlton, our game



had been evolved around pace and packing the midfield. John brought in a big target-man, Bill Ashcroft, and we consistently played two wingers as the season progressed."

"David Armstrong had a fine season on the left-flank and Stan Cummins came through from the reserves and played with tremendous promise on the right-wing."

"The breakthrough by Stan was just one of the encouraging success stories from our young players. Tony McAndrew established himself in midfield; Ian Bailey improved rapidly at full-back and Alan Ramage worked well along-

side me in the back-four."

"To bring in as many young players as that and avoid relegation is something of an achievement by First Division standards. I think it means that we can really take off in the season coming up."

So much of Middlesbrough's ambitions will hinge on the tall, powerful Ashcroft striking the free-scoring form he produced at Wrexham. "He stepped into a different League and I know he was disappointed he didn't carry on for us where he left off at Wrexham," says Boam.

"I'm sure it is going to work out for all of us and the best thing Bill can do is write off last season as down to experience, come out refreshed and inspired in August and whack in the kind of goals we know he can score."

This is what John Mahoney achieved after a poor start following his transfer from Stoke. "John was unhappy at first because he was given a wide role."

With Mahoney now back in his familiar overdrive, the young players responding to the challenge of First Division football and a new goalkeeper in Jim Stewart from Kilmarnock, confidence is booming at Ayresome Park.



Stuart Boam (right) tackles Orient's Peter Kitchen during last season's F.A. Cup Sixth Round replay at Brisbane Road. The Second Division side won 2-1.

ERNIE HOWE
Q.P.R.



SHOOT!